

## Iraqi accord to be announced next week

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's ruling Baath Party said Wednesday President Saddam Hussein's government would announce an autonomy agreement with Kurdish rebels next week. The party newspaper, Al Thawra, said the announcement would be made immediately after the three-day feast of Eid Al Adha which starts next Saturday. "The agreement was reached... as a result of the leadership's strong conviction to strengthen democracy in Iraq and to bolster the positive content of the autonomy experiment," the paper said. Al Thawra also published an interview given by Kurdish rebel leader Massoud Barzani in northern Iraq in which he declared that a comprehensive agreement had been reached with the Iraqi government. The agreement would be signed next week, Mr. Barzani was quoted as saying. He said a new ministry would be created to run the affairs of the northern autonomous region of Kurdistan, home to most of Iraq's 4.5 million Kurds. A spokeswoman for Mr. Barzani said on Sunday an agreement granting wider autonomy to Kurdistan and setting the stage for greater democracy in the whole country would be signed in the Iraqi capital in a week's time.

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تلغراف يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

## PLO invites dissidents to talks

DAMASCUS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has invited dissident Palestinian groups based in Damascus to reconciliation talks in Tunis in mid-July. Khaled Al Fakhour, leader of the Damascus-based Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF), told Reuters Tuesday the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis had sent the invitation to two of the four groups in the front, set up in 1985 in opposition to the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. They are the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC), led by Ahmad Jibril, and the Sa'iga guerrilla group, which is backed by Syria. The PLO does not recognise the other two groups — Fatah Up'sing, a dissident wing of the Fatah movement, and the Communist Revolutionary Party — as PLO factions. The invitations, delivered on Tuesday by PLO Executive Committee member Adu Ali Mustafa of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), followed talks in Damascus in late May between Mr. Fakhour and Farouk Kaddoumi, the head of the PLO Political Department.

Volume 16 Number 4731

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JUNE 20-21, 1991, THU AL HIGEH 8-9, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## King swears in Masri's 25-member Cabinet

Change is seen as major turn in Jordan's political history  
'If it can capitalise on and translate King's vision with courage, new government can lay basis for enduring liberal democracy'

By Narmeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday swore in a 25-member cabinet headed by Prime Minister Taher Masri. It was described by observers and analysts as one of the most liberal governments Jordan has had in many years of the Kingdom's political history.

The Cabinet — dominated by centrist, right-of-centre and left-of-centre politicians and technocrats — is a broad-based alliance of parliamentary and leftist groups and independents that excluded the Muslim Brotherhood movement which has the single biggest bloc of deputies (23) in the 80-man Lower House of Parliament.

"In its final make-up and in the guidelines the King set for it, the formation of the new government should give a clear signal that the state is moving towards liberalism not conservatism, towards peace and progress and not strife and violence, and towards political pluralism and not a one-party state," one seasoned observer said.

"The King drew a red line for fundamentalist and ultra-conservative groups in the country telling them not to cross it because that would mean the destruction of what Jordan has always stood for," the observer, who did not want to be identified, added.

"By excluding the Muslim

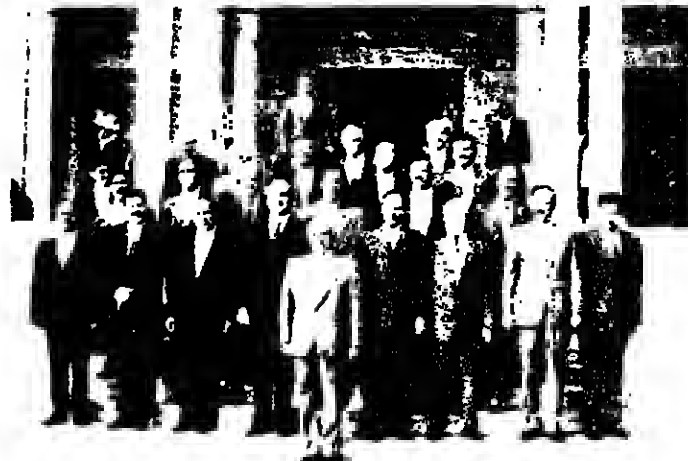
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## Ministers and portfolios

Following is the list of the new cabinet:

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence: Taher Masri  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport and Communications: Ali Suhaimat  
Minister of Aqaf and Islamic Affairs: Raef Nejim  
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Abdullah Ensour  
Minister of Education: Eid Al Dahiyat  
Minister of Higher Education: Mohammad Al Hammouri  
Minister of Finance: Basel Jardaneh  
Minister of Planning: Ziad Fariz  
Minister of Tourism and Antiquities: Abdul Karim Al Kabarti  
Minister of Labour and Minister for Prime Ministry Affairs: Abdul Karim Al Dughani  
Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources: Thabet Al Taher  
Minister of Information and Culture: Khaled Al Karaki

Minister of Public Works and Housing: Saad Hayel Saroor  
Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs: Abdul Salam Frieihat  
Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment: Salim Al Zoubi  
Minister of Social Development: Awad Al Bashir  
Minister of Water and Irrigation: Samir Kassar  
Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs: Mohammad Fares Al Tarawneh  
Minister of State: Jamal Haditha Al Khreisha  
Minister of Interior: Jawdat Al Shoul  
Minister of Justice: Tayseer Kanaana  
Minister of Agriculture: Subhi Al Ouseim  
Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply: Ali Abul Ragheb  
Minister of Health: Mamdouh Al Abbadi  
Minister of Youth: Saleh Irsheidat



His Majesty King Hussein with the new government headed by Taher Masri sworn in Wednesday (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## In letter of appointment, His Majesty outlines principles, objectives of Jordan

### King stresses national unity, constitutional and human rights, socio-economic development, democracy and strengthening army and security

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, in his letter of appointment to Prime Minister Taher Masri, Wednesday outlined the principles with which the new government should work and the objectives it should seek to achieve.

The first principle emphasises the importance of national unity as the basis of the nation's fortitude and progress. National unity should be based on full constitutional rights for everybody, the

King told Mr. Masri.

The second principle is based on total respect for human rights and openness to the outside world. The King told the prime minister and his colleagues that Jordan "must be a country where human rights are respected, and the people are open to the whole world."

The King also instructed the prime minister to develop and draw from the distinctiveness and creativity of individuals as well as

organisational responsibility. "It is high time that we let this concept prevail, so that the people can close their ranks and stand united," the King's letter said.

The new government should work towards achieving national unity and serving common Arab interests, the letter said. Citing the example of European cohesiveness after "the chapters of bloodshed, conflict, psychosis and feud," the King told the

government that "we need to follow this example more than others, within a new world order which rejects conflicts of interest and which shows no mercy towards division and scatter."

On Jordanian-Palestinian relations, the King said: "Our fraternity in this country... on the basis of our belonging to one country and one nation, made the Palestinians in this

(Continued on page 5)

## Badran: Programme went well despite crisis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Following is the text of the letter of resignation submitted to His Majesty King Hussein by Prime Minister Mudar Badran:

Your Majesty:

I have the honour to present to you my feelings of allegiance and loyalty praying that God may bless you with continued health and to preserve you as leader of this nation.

Your Majesty conferred great honour on me when you designated me to form a government at the start of the march of democracy in our dear homeland, a government that was

(Continued on page 5)

## King warmly thanks Badran

You've worked in difficult circumstances  
Reformation needed in voting rights, procedures and constituency redrawing

AMMAN (J.T.) — Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's letter accepting the resignation of Prime Minister Mudar Badran:

You have always been a dear brother and a source of trust and high aspirations. And when it became destined for Arab Jordan to go through its most difficult days and nights and the hardest weeks, months, and years of its march, when it was hit by high waves from every corner, you were there to undertake responsibilities in a period of a comprehensive and deep confrontation, change and challenge. You withstood and carried what honourous men who are able to carry and withstand. You gave from your mind, conscience and health patiently and with the spirit of

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday presents the Al Nabha Medal of the Highest Order to outgoing Prime Minister Mudar Badran (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## Premier pledges to work for democracy, peace and progress

AMMAN (J.T.) — Following is the text of the letter sent to His Majesty King Hussein by Prime Minister Taher Masri in reply to His Majesty's letter of appointment:

In the name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful  
His Majesty King Hussein, may God protect him,

I was honoured by your letter in which you privileged me with the responsibility of forming the new government. As I express my deep pride in the trust which Your Majesty bestowed upon me at this critical stage of Jordan's political life and its democratic

process which is vibrant with freedom, equality, and the rule of law, I beg you to accept the expressions of my loyalty and pray to God to keep Your Majesty, our sovereign, to grant you His support, and to enable me to fulfill the responsibility entrusted to me in serving our beloved Jordan.

Bearing the responsibility at the present moment imposes on us an additional duty to fulfill the requirements of the democratic process in the phase after the ratification of the National Charter. This, in our view, is not an ordinary

phase, nor is it a phase of routine continuity to what preceded it. The National Charter has opened new horizons for the completion of the process of building our constitutionally democratic institutions within a set of regulations that conform to Jordan's development in consolidating the pillars of a modern state based on awareness, diligent work, and a comprehensive outlook at the current circumstances of the country, the state of the nation, and international changes.

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## Masri found his way through maze of blocs and others

By Mariam M. Shabih  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Taher Al Masri and his newly appointed cabinet were sworn into office Wednesday after it became clear that the new government had elected to exclude the biggest single bloc in parliament, the Muslim Brotherhood, in favour of a large number of technocrats, pro-establishment liberals, members of the pan-Arab and leftist coalition, and independent Islamists and a number of independents.

Replacing the Badran government that included five members

of the Muslim Brotherhood and two independent Islamists as well as technocrats, pro-establishment liberals and one member of Jordan's biggest pan-Arab and leftist coalition, Mr. Masri government has managed to tip the balance of power in the cabinet in favour of centralists, left-of-centre and liberal personalities.

Independent observers said that the exclusion of the Muslim Brotherhood and the inclusion of five members of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA), a coalition of pan-Arab nationalists and leftists, formation of a broad-based national coalition cabinet (excluding the Muslim Brotherhood), as headed by Mr. Masri, has expanded the options of joint Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and participation in the peace process.

Some analysts believe that maintaining a strong Jordanian-Palestinian national consensus will provide both Jordan and the PLO with the chance to overcome the obstacles that might be caused by procedures and to focus on the substance and the basis of any proposed peace talks.

"Israel has been trying to avoid the real issue, that is giving up territories for peace. Pressuring Israel to accept a territorial compromise should be the target of Jordan and the PLO, said one Jordanian analyst. "Differences on procedures will only play into Israel's hand."

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## Masri's formation of cabinet helps proposal for joint delegation

By Lami K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Taher Masri's success in forming a cabinet backed by the major liberal, nationalist and leftist parties and trends in the country paves the way and increases prospects for the formation of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to a peace conference to solve the Israeli-Arab conflict, according to political analysts.

Masri's Palestinian origin, his long-standing service in the Jordanian government combined with the support he secured from certain Jordanian parties, which until recently had been extensions of Palestinian groups, can prove crucial to the forming of a Jordanian-Palestinian national consensus in favour of a joint delegation, the analysts maintain.

The Jordanian People's Democratic Party and the Jordanian Popular Unity Party — formerly

extensions of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) respectively — had agreed to participate in the government on the basis of the latter's commitment to the right of the PLO to choose its representatives to any proposed talks and removal of the remaining restrictions on political freedom in the country.

The two groups did not directly participate in the cabinet, but took part in naming five cabinet members who represent the broader Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA). "We do not object to direct participation. It might happen in the future," said Tayseer Zibri, head of the JPDP — who had until last year been a political bureau member of the DFLP.

The participation of JANDA in a cabinet headed by Mr. Masri is viewed as a reflection of an

emerging consensus on a Jordanian negotiating position and a practical realisation of the definition of the role of Jordanians of Palestinian origin as outlined in the National Charter, ratified on June 9.

According to the National Charter, Jordanians from Palestinian origin are Jordanians as far as their rights and duties of political allegiance are concerned.

In fact the charter's definition was the culmination of a long debate triggered by Jordan's 1988 decision to relinquish the responsibility of the Israeli-occupied West Bank to the PLO. Since then a gradual and sometimes painful disengagement of institutions, including political parties, had followed. But the practical implementation of the disengagement, especially of the political groups, had proved to be very difficult as many political personalities and activists were involved in both the Jordanian

and Palestinian political lives. Therefore it was only expected that the designation of Mr. Masri (even though, according to well informed Jordanian sources, he was appointed as a Jordanian and not as a Palestinian) would revive the debate.

In the view of some analysts Mr. Masri's appointment has put to the test the acceptance by all sides concerned of the new formula governing Palestinian-Jordanian relations. Initially, questions could not be avoided and were raised in Palestinian political circles particularly that both the U.S. and Israel have persistently rejected the PLO's role in peace negotiations.

But there were no real traces of the tension that had characterised Palestinian reaction to other Jordanian steps especially prior to the disengagement and democratisation process.

Nevertheless, Jordanian and Palestinian analysts agree that the

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## Islamic List wins first West Bank election in 15 years

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (R) — Islamic fundamentalists on Wednesday won control of the chamber of commerce in the West Bank city of Hebron in the first elections for public office in the Israeli occupied territories in 15 years.

Palestinian sources said the Islamic List, headed by businessman Hashem Natshe, won six of the chamber's 11 seats, supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) took four seats and an independent candidate captured one.

The ballot on Tuesday of more than 1,500 businessmen was seen as a test for future municipal elections in the region.

Voting, under the gaze of Israeli authorities, was held without incident in the town, a focal point of the Palestinian uprising.

Palestinian nationalists had predicted victory for supporters of the PLO, which is banned by Israel.

Candidates had pledged to

work against Israeli tax collection and vowed to seek support from abroad for Palestinian businesses.

Municipal elections swept by PLO supporters, were last held in the West Bank in 1976.

Israeli authorities have since sacked most elected Palestinian mayors and replaced them with appointed officials.

The Islamic List includes the Hamas movement as well as other Muslim representatives.

Mr. Natshe, a relative of Hebron's deposed, Mayor Mustafa Natshe, was not available for comment after the election.

"Both the Israelis and Palestinians abroad agreed to the elections," said Islamic candidate Azmi Dweik. "Perhaps municipal elections, or other elections will follow."

He said the poll was approved by PLO leaders abroad.

Israel wants to grant the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza only limited "self-rule"

and had proposed holding municipal elections to facilitate the autonomy plan.

Election supervisors, appointed by the Israeli "civil administration," said at least 85 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots.

Candidates said the high turnout reflected the Palestinian people's yearning for national elections.

"Our people are democratic. We cannot live on bread only. We need a parliament," said Ali Shawa Al Tamimi, who ran on the pro-PLO Khalil Rahman list.

Palestinian industrialists, businessmen and storeowners streamed to vote as hundreds of Arab residents crowded outside the election hall in a local school.

An official from the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem was in Hebron to watch the results of the poll.

Israeli soldiers blocked off a street leading to the polling station but kept their distance.

## Shamir gives bleak view of peace chance

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir gave a bleak estimate of Middle East peace prospects on Wednesday, condemning Arab positions and saying the Gulf war had not changed regional problems.

Mr. Shamir's speech followed signs of an impending clash with Washington over his rejection of U.S. requests to curtail Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Despite the destruction of Iraq's offensive power the basic problems of the region remain unchanged," Mr. Shamir told the Zionist General Council.

"The widespread tendency of Arab regimes to rely on war, terror and violence to achieve political goals has not changed," he said. "There is no movement in the approach of Arab states towards Israel and they are still in a state of war with us."

Mr. Shamir emphasised his rejection of any U.N. role in peace talks or a peace conference with any powers, saying only direct state to state talks would provide agreements.

U.S. President George Bush, seeking a compromise that would

allow talks to begin, suggested a U.N. observer role and a conference that could reconvene, with Israeli agreement, after six months to hear progress reports.

Mr. Shamir turned down the Bush proposal earlier this month while Syria, a key player in talks, has yet to respond. Syria has sought a strong U.N. role and a conference that reconvenes.

"The fact Arab states stubbornly demand an international conference and the active involvement of the U.N. raises doubts as to the willingness of Arab states to come to terms with us," Mr. Shamir told the Zionist meeting.

Shamir, who said on Tuesday he hoped to avoid a confrontation with Washington over Jewish settlements, played down the differences threatening to block Israeli requests for \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees to help Soviet Jewish immigrants.

"We are working with the American administration hand in hand to advance a peace agreement with Arab states and even if there are disagreements sometimes ... the close relations between the countries were not and will not be harmed," he said.

## Belgium may head Iraq fund

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council Tuesday informally tapped Belgium to head the governing council of the U.N. compensation fund which will oversee Iraqi reparations payments for losses stemming from the invasion of Kuwait, diplomats said.

In private consultations, the 15-member council agreed that Belgium, a non-permanent council member with a two-year term, should steer the governing council, which is to be based in Geneva.

There was no formal announcement and no candidate for the post was named.

The council members also agreed that the governing council should hold its first meeting in early July in Geneva.

The governing council will include representatives of all 15 Security Council members, and it will operate as a subsidiary of the Security Council.

But, in a departure from Security Council rules, the five permanent members will not be able to exercise veto power. Nine affirmative votes will be required to take an action.

The council will set policy for the compensation commission, which will include experts and administer the U.N. compensation fund. Under terms of the Security Council ceasefire resolution ending the Gulf war, Iraq must set aside a certain percentage of its future oil revenues to pay reparations to victims of its invasion of Kuwait.

Although the Security Council officially has approved the governing council, commission and fund, they are not functioning yet. Appointments have not been made, procedures have not been worked out and initial financing for the fund's administration is uncertain.

On Friday, Security Council members will meet informally with legal experts, accountants and others to discuss the agenda for the first meeting of the governing council in Geneva.

Also Friday, the Security Council is to discuss the level of Iraq's contribution to the fund. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar already has recommended that Iraq be forced to set aside no more than 30 per cent of its future oil revenues for reparations payments.

The United States has been pressing to increase the ceiling to 40 per cent or 50 per cent, but has virtually no support on the council for the higher figure. Most nations support the 30 per cent ceiling, while some favour a lower figure. Iraq has asked for a moratorium of at least two years on reparation payments, saying its war-battered economy can hardly meet the basic needs of the population.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Seven killed in rebel clashes in Turkey

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Six Kurdish rebels and a civilian were killed and five soldiers wounded in three separate clashes in southeast Turkey Monday, officials said. They said security forces killed three rebels after storming a house where members of the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) were hiding in the town of Silvan. In the town of Tunceli, paramilitary gendarmes killed two guerrillas after rebels opened fire on their police station. A civilian and a guerrilla were killed and five soldiers wounded in the town of Dize. The outlawed PKK, based in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, launched a violent independence campaign for Turkey's 10 million Kurds in 1984. More than 3,000 people have been killed since then.

### Lawyers walk out at Tunis trial

TUNIS (R) — Lawyers defending 27 Muslim fundamentalists walked out of court in Tunis Tuesday in protest at the court's refusal to give them more time to study the case, judicial sources said. The fundamentalists, members of the unrecognised Nahdha movement, are being retried for attacking an office of the ruling party in central Tunis in February, burning one guard alive and injuring three. Eight of the defendants could be sentenced to death. After the walkout the court adjourned the hearing for consultations between the presiding judge and the lawyers, the sources said. Eight of the fundamentalists were sentenced to life imprisonment at the end of their first trial in May. Sixteen received prison terms of between one and 20 years and the other three were given two year suspended sentences. The authorities asked an appeal court earlier this month to retry the case after relatives of the victims complained that the sentences were too lenient. The defence lawyers have argued that the death of the guard was accidental, not premeditated.

### Turkey seizes 250 kg of heroin

ANKARA (R) — Turkish gendarmes have seized 250 kg of heroin and detained several people in western Turkey, the Anatolian news agency said. The haul, the biggest so far this year with an estimated street value in Turkey of 500 billion lira (\$115 million), was found in a farm house in the village of Yuregir, 350 km west of Ankara. It did not say how many people were detained, equipment and chemicals used in heroin production were also seized, it added. It was the third confiscation of heroin by Turkish forces in the past month. The first two operations brought in 87 kg of finely processed heroin. Turkey is on the so-called Balkan route, a major drug trafficking route from Afghanistan to Western Europe through Pakistan and Iran. Officials said police seized about 1,500 kg of heroin in 1990, 10 per cent of the amount that passes through Turkey. They confiscated 1,300 kg in 1989.

### OAU appeals for more aid for Africa

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The head of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) appealed Tuesday for more aid to help millions of victims of famine and war. "The combined effects of drought, famine and armed conflicts have created a tragic situation in which a major human tragedy is unfolding in Africa today," OAU Secretary General Salim Ahmed Salim said in a statement to donor nations. "A swift and generous response by the international community is most crucial if the impending catastrophe is to be averted," he added. More than 17 million people risk starving to death because of drought and civil strife in Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia. Millions more are at risk in Liberia, Mozambique and Angola, according to the United Nations. Salim said Sudan, Djibouti and Kenya required urgent assistance to cope with a huge influx of refugees after recent upheavals in Ethiopia and Somalia.

### OIC calls for aid for Somalia

JEDDAH (AP) — The 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) appealed Tuesday for urgent relief aid for the Somali people and said it was willing to host a Somali national reconciliation conference at its headquarters. "I strongly appeal to the member states and to the entire world community to provide urgent human aid to the Somali people whose very existence is greatly jeopardised," Secretary-General Hamid Al Ghabid said. He also appealed to all the Somali movements to resort to reason and accept dialogue on the basis of understanding, tolerance and fraternity. "You should concentrate your efforts on achieving national unity and rebuilding the country," he told them. "The OIC is willing to participate in any meeting that could achieve the national unity of Somalia. It is also willing to host a national reconciliation conference at its headquarters in Jeddah," Mr. Ghabid said. "The civil war in this country has killed thousands of Somali people, destroyed entire cities and displaced hundreds of thousands who are now living in very difficult conditions without lodging, food or medicine," he said. Mr. Ghabid recently visited Somalia and held talks with the secessionist leaders in the north with a bid to forge unity in the war-torn country.

### Greece ready to talk with Yilmaz

ATHENS (AP) — Greece said Tuesday it was ready to talk with the Turkish government formed by Premier Mesut Yilmaz, the semi-official Athens news agency reported. "The Greek government is ready to undertake, together with your government, a serious and sincere dialogue," the agency quoted Premier Constantine Mitsotakis as saying in a telegram. The telegram was sent to congratulate Mr. Yilmaz for his appointment Monday as premier of Turkey. Mr. Yilmaz will need about a week to form a cabinet. "It is my firm conviction that in the context of the new spirit of friendship and cooperation prevailing in Europe today, we can work together with the aim of promoting good and fruitful relations between our two countries," Mr. Mitsotakis said. Relations between Greece and Turkey have deteriorated in recent months following an exchange of diplomatic protests over alleged airspace violations by their military aircraft in the Aegean Sea. Greece and Turkey have longstanding disputes over airspace control of the Aegean and its mineral rights. The two NATO allies have also been arguing over the level of U.S. military aid that each will receive next year and the Cyprus problem.

## U.N. team prepares to check secret nuclear plants in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A team of U.N. nuclear experts plans to go to Iraq Friday or Saturday to search for evidence that Baghdad is secretly trying to build nuclear weapons, U.N. sources said Tuesday.

The team, from the U.N. commission supervising the destruction of Iraq's dangerous weapons and the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Commission (IAEA), flew to U.N. offices in Bahrain on Tuesday to prepare for the Iraqi visit.

Team leader is Professor Maurizio Zifferero from the IAEA. Also in the group is Dr.

Robert Gallucci, an American, who is deputy director of the newly formed U.N. commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

The IAEA, in a statement released in Vienna and New York, said the mission would be visiting the Tuwaitha research site near Baghdad, as well as other locations "on the basis of information that has recently become available."

U.S. officials in Washington have said they handed to Dr. Gallucci and others on the commission information from an Iraqi "defector" who claimed there

was a secret enriched uranium producing plant near the northern city of Mosul.

He is alleged to have said the plant yielded more than 10 kilos of enriched uranium that could be made into a primitive nuclear bomb using an old fashioned technique once tried but abandoned by the United States.

IAEA sources in Vienna said the agency had planned further inspections of Iraqi nuclear installations after their initial visit in May, but the second trip had been brought forward following the "defector's" reports.

During the May visit to research sites at Tuwaitha and Tarmiya, the IAEA sealed about 40 kilos of uranium — 12.25 kilos of 96 per cent highly enriched uranium and about 27.75 kilos of 80 per cent enriched uranium that Iraq had declared.

Baghdad, in its April 27 report to the IAEA, also said some enriched uranium was beneath the Tuwaitha site and had been bombed by allies but other amounts had been removed to avoid the bombing.

Under a Security Council resolution adopted April 3, Iraq must provide details of its chemical, biological, ballistic and nuclear weapons so materials can be removed or destroyed.

Once that is accomplished the resolutions says Iraq would be permitted to export oil again, embargoed since four days after Baghdad's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

IAEA Director General Hans Blix, said in Vienna over the weekend the IAEA had never assumed that all sites and materials had been located.

## Grenade thrown at Israeli police post

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A grenade thrown by a Palestinian wounded an Israeli soldier at a police station in the occupied West Bank town of Ramallah Wednesday, military sources said.

The blast, which also damaged two cars, was the third against soldiers or settlers in the West Bank in two weeks.

The Israeli army clamped a curfew on the area of 50,000 people and began searching for the attackers. Witnesses quoted by Reuters said, soldiers drove away Palestinian shoppers by firing shots above their heads.

A woman from the West Bank settlement of Beit El was wounded in a grenade attack on her car in Ramallah two weeks ago.

On Monday Palestinians threw a grenade at the Israeli employment office in Nablus but no one was hurt.

An Israeli newspaper reported Tuesday the army plans to issue guns to about 100 Jewish settler students for civil guard duty at a settlement in the occupied West Bank.

Past plans to arm Jewish settlers in the occupied territories have been opposed by left-wing and human rights groups, which claimed the step would increase violence between settlers and Palestinians.

Asked about the report in the daily

Haaretz, military officials would only say the army issues weapons to settlers "according to criteria set by the general staff." They declined to specify the criteria.

Many of the 100,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza already carry weapons, but most are privately owned or issued for army reserve duty. Settlers argue they need arms to defend against stoning and firebomb attacks.

According to the Israeli human rights group B'tselem, at least 37 Palestinians have been slain by Israeli civilians in the 3½-year uprising.

Two Israeli sergeants and a corporal will be tried soon on charges of beating and harassing Palestinians, including the staging of a mock execution. Haaretz reported.

The newspaper said charges were expected to be filed against other soldiers for similar abuses during the uprising.

According to the paper, the charges include beating children on their way to school, dragging Palestinian men and boys from their homes and kicking them in the testicles, and bludgeoning an Arab bus driver until he bled.

In one case, the newspaper said, an Arab man was seized from his home in the Gaza town of Rafah last January, beaten with a metal helmet, then forced to undergo a mock execution in which a gun was cocked next to his head.



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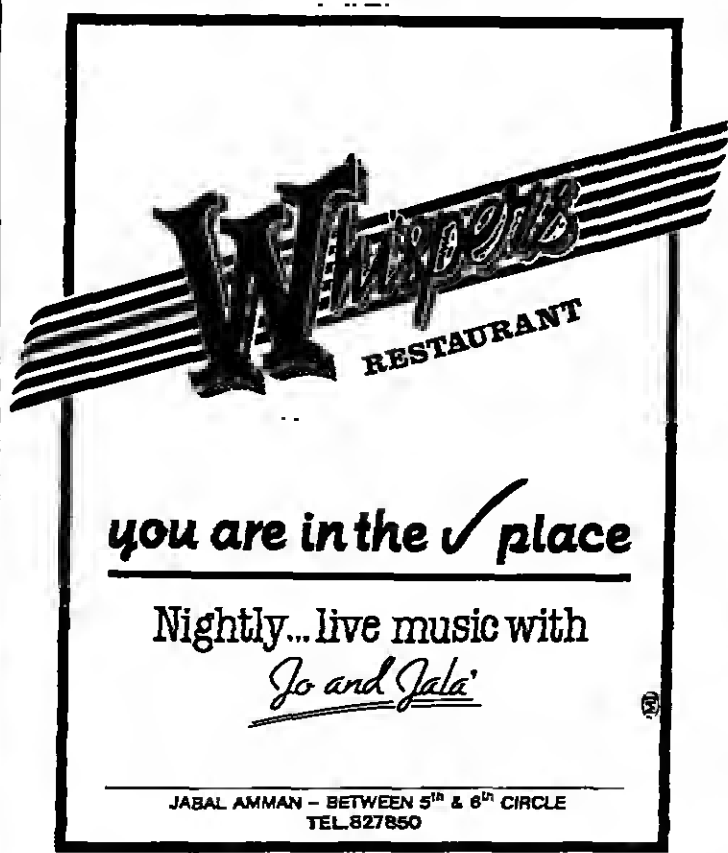


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## Britain: No news yet on engineer

LONDON (R) — Britain said Wednesday it was seeking details from Iraqi, Soviet and Jordanian officials on when and how British engineer Douglas Brand, freed from an Iraqi jail, will leave Iraq for home.

A Foreign Office spokesman said there had not been any bit in Mr. Brand's release.

"It's really up to the Iraqis," the spokesman said. "The timing and means of transport are very much in their hands."

The Iraqi Information Ministry said Mr. Brand, jailed for life last month on spying charges, left prison on Tuesday and would leave Iraq overland via Jordan.

The Foreign Office said it was in touch with diplomats in the Iraqi and Soviet embassies in Amman seeking details of Mr. Brand's travel plans.

**JORDAN TELEVISION**  
Tel: 773111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**

18:00	Cartons
18:30	Documentary
19:00	News in French
19:15	Documentary
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Day By Day
21:00	Deadly Intentions
22:00	News in English
22:20	

Movie of the week: "Trapped on the 37th Floor"

**PRAYER TIMES**

03:55	Fajr
05:27	(Sunrise) Duha
12:33	Dhuhr
16:13	'Asr
19:38	Maghreb
20:10	Isha

**CHURCHES**

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637885.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terramata Church Tel. 623366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 715261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 711751.

Amman International Church Tel. 811295.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 811817 and 654932.

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

in/max. temp.

Amman 20 / 35

Aqaba 26 / 41

Jericho 19 / 39

Jordan Valley 24 / 40

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 36, Aqaba 42. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 21 per cent.

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:

Dr. Adnan Al Zughoul	898140
Dr. Mufred Tannous	884480
Dr. Ahmad Al Dagen	676473
Dr. Mohammed Abu Maftouh	793344
Firas pharmacy	661912
Ferdous pharmacy	778336
Al Asana pharmacy	637025
Natrouk pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shimelani pharmacy	637660

**WEATHER**

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The kingdom will remain under the effect of a hot air mass Wednesday. Wind will be northerly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

**EMERGENCIES**

Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate Response	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621171, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630721
Hotel Complaints	602830
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	787111
Telephone Information	664164/6

**HOSPITALS**

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	644281/6
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	644241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmiciani	664171/4
Shmiciani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Mushar Hospital	667221/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/7
Al-Anli, Abdali	664164/6

(directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623108

Abdali Telephone 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport. 08-53200

**ARRIVALS**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:00	New Delhi (RJ)
18:15	Riyadh (RJ)
18:30	Dhahran (RJ)
18:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:25	Larnaca (RJ)
17:40	London (RJ)
18:00	Cairo (RJ)
18:30	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:40	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
18:50	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:15	Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)

**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**

14:05	Bahrain (GF)
20:50	Cairo (MS)

**DEPARTURES**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

12:00	Ab Dhabi-add (RJ)
12:30	Montreal, New York (RJ)
13:00	London, Paris (RJ)
14:00	Larnaca (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
21:00	Jeddah (RJ)
21:30	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

**MARKET PRICES**

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	720 / 450
Banana	300 / 450
Banana (Mukammal)	450 / 400
Beans	500 / 250
Cabbage	100 / 50
Carrot	200 / 180
Cauliflower	300 / 250
Cucumbers (large)	120 / 80
Cucumbers (small)	220 / 160
Eggplant	400 / 350
Garlic	100 / 100
Lemon	370 / 300
Lettuce (per one)	150 / 100
Marrow (large)	300 / 250
Marrow (small)	170 / 120
Onion (dry)	200 / 150
Orange	450 / 200
Pepper (hot)	320 / 260
Pepper (sweet)	360 / 300
Potato	300 / 250
Radiash	150 / 100
Sage	420 / 350
Sweet melon	260 / 220
Tomatoes	220 / 160
Watermelon	240 / 90

**FOR THE TRAVELLER**

**QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)52200-5, where it should always be verified.

مَكْزَا مِنْ الْأَصْلِ



# Home News

## Press draft law sent for approval

AMMAN (Peira) — The Ministry of Information has finalised work on a draft law on press and publication and submitted it to the prime minister's office for approval before it can be put into effect.

The draft law was worked out in the spirit of the Jordanian Constitution, which allowed for freedom of expression in writing and in any other form, and drew inspiration from the National Charter, which was endorsed by the general congress earlier this month and approved by His Majesty King Hussein, according to an official at the Ministry of Information.

He said that freedom of press and publication for all groups and individuals constituted the backbone of the new law which allows various political parties to issue their own newspapers.

The law facilitates the entry and distribution in Jordan of various books and publications and

## Royal Decree sets up university commission

AMMAN (Peira) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday setting up a Royal Commission for the University of Zarqa. It comprises Mr. Mudar Badran, as chairman, and ministers of higher education and education, as members, along with Awni Al Masri, Kamel Ajlouni, Abdullah Owaidat, Ibrahim Takiuddin and Abdul Majid Shoman.

The Higher Education Council had earlier approved the establishment of a national university in Zarqa.

## Profile of the new Cabinet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Following are the profiles of the ministers who joined the new government:

**Tayseer Kanaan, minister of justice**

Born in Nahliis in 1925, he obtained his secondary and law diplomas from Jerusalem, served at one time as head of a court in Jerusalem and later worked at the Court of Cassation and the Higher Court of Justice until 1989 when he was retired for political reasons. He told the Jordan Times he would give due attention to the judicial system and the judges.

**Ali Abul Raghed, minister of industry, trade and supply**

Born in Amman in 1946, he obtained a civil engineering degree from Tennessee, U.S., in 1967. Worked at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment from 1967 to 1972 before turning to private business. He became president of the Jordanian Contractors Association from 1986 to 1990.

**Dr. Subhi Al Qasem, minister of agriculture**

Born in Bal'in, near Toulkarm in 1934, he was educated in the United States. He received his B.A. degrees from Kansas and his Masters and Doctorate degrees from Minnesota University. From 1960 to 1965 he served in the Ministry of Agriculture and from 1965 to 1991 at the University of Jordan. He told the Jordan Times that he would give due care to the farmers and investments in farming as he believes that appropriate climate helps to boost production.

**Samir Kavar, minister of water and irrigation**

Born in Salt in 1934, he was educated in Salt and Amman and later in the United States where he graduated with a BSc degree in agricultural engineering from Arizona and Masters Degree in Kansas. He served in the Revolution Department and later turned his attention to business. He was elected Parliament member in the 1989 elections for the Salt constituency. In a statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Kavar said he planned to renew the water network in most regions and would pursue a programme for the development of underground water resources and dams to utilise surface water resources.

**Rafiq Nijem, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs**

Was educated in Jerusalem and later obtained a civil engineering degree from Cairo University in 1951. He worked abroad and for the Ministry of Public Works from 1966 to 1976, at Yarmouk University from 1976 to 1984. He was minister of public works between 1984-85. Later he ran an office for engineering consultancy services. Mr. Nijem is member of the Committee for the Reconstruction of the Dome of the Rock.

**Mamduh Al Abbadi, health minister**

Born in Amman in 1943, graduated from high school 1960, graduated from Istanbul University with a degree in medicine in 1966 and obtained a diploma in ophthalmology from London in 1973. He served with the Health Ministry for 10 years before opening a clinic. He also served as president of the Jordanian Medical Association from 1987 to 1991. He told the Jordan Times that he was keen on boosting public health services.

**Jawdat Esboul, minister of interior**

Born in Tafleeh in 1932, he was educated in local schools before obtaining his university degree in law from the Arab University of Beirut in 1968. Mr. Esboul served in a number of posts here and in Abu Dhabi and for some time he worked as a legal advisor for a number of organisations and in senior positions at the Ministry of Interior. In 1989 he became governor of Irbid and in 1991 governor of Amman.

**Salim Zoubi, minister of municipal and rural affairs and the environment**

Born in Ktraja, near Irbid in

the exchange of land for peace," he said after meeting U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in April.

Known for his informal, outspoken manner and keen sense of humour, the U.S. educated former diplomat has maintained the goodwill of a broad range of factions in his decades-long political career.

Mr. Masri, the eldest of five brothers and four sisters, comes from a wealthy and prominent family with close ties to the Royal Court.

He is also very close to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its mainstream Fatah movement which yields great influence among many Palestinians in Jordan. Those links helped him secure a seat during the 1989 general parliamentary elections, the first poll in over two decades.

"Masri is the best bridge between Jordan and the PLO," said an associate. "He knows the limits of the two and is a logical choice in terms of his background, experience and integrity."

The prime minister's uncle Taher Al Masri was shot dead in Nabulus in February 1986 shortly after Israeli authorities appointed him mayor of the city.

Mr. Masri served as foreign minister for five years under

lege and at the University of Beirut, where he graduated with a B.A. degree in business administration, and in Texas University. He is member of the Lower House of Parliament. He served in the field of tourism here and abroad and later served as minister of tourism in the Mudar Badran cabinet.

**Abdullah Ensour, foreign minister**

Born in Salt in 1939, he was educated at the American University of Beirut and in the University of London.

finance in the cabinet of Zeid Rifai. He also served as director of the Income Tax Department and in several other posts here and abroad.

**Dr. Saleh Ersheidat, minister of youth**

Born in Irbid in 1946, he completed his secondary education in Egypt before going to Germany where he obtained a Doctorate degree in civil engineering in 1965. He served as a consultant to major and regional firms in Jordan between 1980 and 1990. Dr. Ersheidat is member of the Jordan Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA) and the Arab Human Rights Organisation.

**Mohammad Fares Al Tarawneh, minister of state**

Born in 1941, he obtained a degree in law from the Arab University of Beirut in 1981. He worked as a lawyer and served as official at the Jordan Valley Authority between 1974-1979. Later he practiced law.

**Dr. Eid Dahiyat, minister of education**

Born in 1945, he holds a PhD in English literature from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He became professor of English literature at the University of Jordan in 1974, became minister of youth between 1986-1988, vice president of academic affairs at the University of Jordan between 1989-1990 and president of Amman Private University in 1990-1991.

**Abdul Salam Freihatt, minister of state for parliamentary affairs**

Born in 1935, he obtained a degree in law from the Arab University of Beirut in 1962. He served in the ministries of education and awqaf and was elected member in Parliament in 1989. He is member of the Independent Islamic Bloc, representing Ajloun constituency.

**Mohammad Al Hammouri, minister of higher education**

Born in Beit Ras, near Irbid, studied law and obtained a doctorate degree from Cambridge University. He worked as dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Jordan between 1980 and 1988. He served as minister of culture in 1988-1989, and with the resignation of the cabinet of Prime Minister Zeid Rifai returned to work as dean of law at the University of Jordan until now.

## Peaceful appeal turns into outrage at Kuwaiti mission

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — What started out as a peaceful appeal by family members of those condemned to death in Kuwait, turned into outrage Wednesday when the Kuwaiti Embassy in Amman refused to accept their written appeal.

Led by three members of the Lower House of Parliament, about 150 men, women, and children, along with representatives from popular committees and unions, marched from the Red Cross headquarters in Amman to the Kuwaiti Embassy with the intent to hand in a letter demanding fair trials, reversing the death sentences and putting an end to the arbitrary acts of revenge and torture in Kuwait.

At first the delegation, made up of family members of the accused and three parliamentarians — Mansour Seif Iddine Murad, Ziad Mahfouz and Mohammad Haj — was not allowed on the premises of the embassy. Instead, a representative from the embassy came out and took the appeal from the delegates. Soon after they handed in the appeal another representative came out and gave it back.

The refusal of the Kuwaiti Embassy to take the appeal sparked outrage among those who went there in the hopes of getting a positive reaction from Kuwaiti embassy officials.

"I was told by the Foreign

Ministry that the embassy is not even cooperating with the ministry. They (the Kuwaiti Embassy) refuse to answer the calls of the ministry," Mr. Murad, a member of the Democratic Bloc in Parliament said. "We strongly call for the closure of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Amman, and severing all ties with Kuwait, if it goes on ignoring our appeals," he added.

Jordan appealed on Monday for immediate international intervention to save the lives of Jordanians and Palestinians condemned to death in Kuwait martial law courts for their alleged collaboration with Iraq. The Kingdom has also been contacting the Kuwaiti government in order to reopen its embassy in Kuwait, but so far no response has come through.

On Tuesday, Kuwaiti courts issued another eight death sentences, bringing the total number of people condemned to death to 21.

"If the Kuwaiti government does not listen to our calls and the calls of Arab and international organisations to stop these measures, our people will not remain silent," Mr. Murad said.

Standing in front of the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Amman, participants called on the international community to intervene and put an end to the long list of summary trials against Jordanians, Palestinians and

other Arab nationals in Kuwait.

A delegation handed the appeal to the representative of the ICRC demanding more action from the committee.

"Don't just feel with them, HELP them, they are innocent," "Where are the human rights in Kuwait?" "We demand the release of all prisoners in Kuwait," read some of the banners carried by family members of those who face death in Kuwait.

Samira Aminah Nasr, the mother of Osama Suheil Abdullah, a 28-year-old Jordanian who did layout for the Al Nida'a newspaper, described her son as a calm person who stayed away from any political activity during the occupation.

Mrs. Nasr said that three days after the "liberation" of Kuwait her son was stopped by a Kuwaiti road block. "By coincidence Osama had four books about Palestine in the back seat of his car," she said. "So they accused him of owning a printing press that published anti-Kuwait material," she added.

After they arrested him, they found out that he had gotten two paychecks from the Iraqis, for his two months' work at the paper. "Never in my wildest dream did I imagine that something like that would happen to him," Mrs. Nasr said. "I told him to get out of Kuwait, but he refused and insisted that Kuwait was his country," she added.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of photographs by Bernard Guitot at the French Cultural Centre.
- An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Showqi Shoukri, Mohammad Al Jalous and Rifqi Al Razzaz at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.).
- Palestinian heritage exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Photo exhibition by Hans Richter at the Goethe Institute.
- Poster exhibition at the British Council.
- Ceramics exhibition by Margaret Tadoros and Najwa Annab at the Spanish Cultural Centre between June 17-30, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Closed during Eid Al Fitr.

### FILMS

- A festival of animated drawings and paintings featuring the masterwork Opus I (Walter Ruttmann), Diagonals (Viktor Eggeling) and Motion Painting No. 1 (Oskar Fischinger) at the Goethe Institute.

## KLM back to Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Effective June 26, 1991 KLM, Royal Dutch Airlines, in co-operation with Cyprus Airways announces the operation of two weekly services between Amman and Amsterdam on Wednesdays and Fridays. On this occasion, Mr. Najeeb

Fakhoury, the general manager for KLM in Jordan, held a reception Wednesday, June 19, at the Regency Palace Hotel for all travel agents and briefed them about the joint service by KLM, Royal Dutch Airlines and Cyprus Airways.



IBM DEALERS MEET IN BAHRAIN: IBM Personal Systems dealers from throughout the Gulf region are meeting at the Bahrain Hilton this week to discuss future strategies and new products with their hosts, Gulf Business Machines (GBM), and senior IBM executives. The conference opened Tuesday morning with an address by Ahmed Hubail, deputy minister of commerce and agriculture, in which he highlighted the opportunities existing in the region and the importance of Bahrain as a regional centre, recognised by great international companies such as IBM in encouraging GBM to establish its headquarters in Bahrain.

Jordan Times  
Tel: 667171

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## Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

### Potash Production Expansion

Project No. 30-4857 (APC-25/90)

Advertisement for major equipment supply

The Arab Potash Company Limited (A.P.C.) of Amman, Jordan plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Sali, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200km north of the port of Aqaba.

A P.C. has applied for financing to the World Bank. The proceeds of the loan will be applied to payments for the supply of the required equipment in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the World Bank and Switzerland.

The Arab Potash Company invites suppliers, interested in tendering for any of the following equipment, to apply for tender documents to A.P.C. or Jacobs at the address shown below. The cost for each tender package shall be U.S.\$40 — non refundable.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carnallite centrifuges</li> <li>2. Product centrifuges</li> <li>3. Agitators</li> <li>4. Thickener Mechanisms</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Dryer</li> <li>6. Cooler</li> <li>7. Carnallite/Crystalliser screens</li> <li>8. Salt flotation cell bank</li> </ol>
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Issa Gammoh, Projects Manager, The Arab Potash Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 1470 Amman — Jordan</li> <li>Fax No.: 962-3-377125/Site.</li> <li>Fax No.: 962-6-674416/Amman H.O.</li> <li>Telex No. 21683 Potash Jo.</li> <li>Tel No.: 666165/6 - Amman</li> <li>665116 or 03-377121 - Site</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Mr. M. Hodgins, Jacobs International Inc., Merrion House, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, — Ireland</li> <li>Fax No.: 353-1-2695497</li> <li>Telex No.: 30295 JCBS-EI</li> <li>Tel. No.: 353-1-2695666</li> </ol>
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Tender documents will be available to suppliers on and from June 16th, 1991. The closing date for submission of tenders will be 12:00 noon July 15th, 1991

A.Y. Ensour,  
Managing Director,  
The Arab Potash Co., Ltd.,



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1973.

مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية المستقلة - مؤسسة صحفية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## Between reality and progress

THE APPOINTMENT of Mr. Taher Masri to form Jordan's next government came as a bit of surprise to many ordinary Jordanians. They had been expecting the resignation of Prime Minister Mudar Badran ever since the Gulf war ended in March, but very few laymen — and intellectuals — thought that His Majesty King Hussein's choice would finally be the affable but able minister of external affairs. Upon hearing the news of Mr. Masri's selection as prime-minister designate, most Jordanians thought the choice was intended at nudging the Middle East peace process, if not outright for starting negotiations with Israel. But when asked by an inquisitive reporter whether that was his real mission, Mr. Masri had this to ask the journalist: "What peace process do you mean?" Indeed, for despite the initial, somewhat sceptical reaction by the public to the new change, common wisdom has it that whether Jordan enters a peace process and eventually negotiations with Israel does not as much depend on who the prime minister in Amman is as it is in fact a function of what all the others want or are ready to accept.

Mr. Masri may be a more "flexible," more "Western-oriented" personality than the outgoing prime minister, Mr. Mudar Badran. Essentially, however, their policies on the peace process are not much different and the two men have not been known to fight over foreign policy matters.

No doubt, the new prime minister, because of his Palestinian heritage and good links with the PLO, will try to play the Palestinian hand more shrewdly and effectively than Mr. Badran did, which will be an asset to him in the search for Arab-Israeli-Palestinian peace. Another asset might be that his relations with the U.S. and its Arab allies during the Gulf war are not as strained as they were with Mr. Badran.

But, let us face it, the new government is not and cannot be only about peace moves and international relations, important as they may be. The government in this country does some other things and traditionally has some heavier responsibilities to shoulder. It builds schools and houses, dams and stadiums; it employs 60 per cent of the total workforce; it supervises the army, and controls the intelligence and police departments; it provides water, electricity and health; it even owns TV companies, hotels and newspapers. So any prime minister holds power that extends far beyond foreign policy issues, especially now when Jordan lives through a thriving democratisation process and where any new government has to earn a parliamentary vote of confidence at some stage of its life.

After 33 years on the throne, His Majesty the King should know the world well and he knows exactly where he wants his country to be.

By appointing Mr. Masri to his post, he is basically saying one thing: The future of Jordanians and Palestinians is now more interwoven and meshed than it had been in a long time and that the way to the future from here lies through liberal democracy at home and more diplomacy abroad.

It remains up to the new prime minister and his colleagues to translate the King's vision into reality, more development and progress.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAY Wednesday launched a bitter attack on the United States which was instrumental in the latest U.N. Security Council vote depriving Iraq of its military power. The U.N. resolution against Iraq is designed to transform that country into a weak state incapable of defending itself and depending on the United States and the West for survival, said the paper. This resolution will soon be followed by a decision in the United States to supply Israel with a vast arsenal of mass destruction weapons which could bring destruction to Iraq or any other Arab state at any moment, the paper predicted. The resolution against Iraq was a show of Western contempt of the Arab Nation and a means to humiliate the Arab people and deprive them of the power to defend themselves against any future Israeli aggression, the paper continued. But, it said, humiliation of others does not bring victory to the aggressors; and the time will come when the oppressed nations will transform their wrath into revenge. With this latest resolution, the United States hopes that it will keep Israel far more superior in military capability over all the Arab countries put together, thus securing its continued drive towards expansion at the expense of its Arab neighbours, the paper added. It said that the people of this region will not remain dormant for so long, but will rise against oppression and tyranny to deal ignominious defeat on its enemies.

Al Dustour voiced the Jordanian and Palestinian people's bitterness over statements made by Kuwait's ambassador to the United States and published in the Washington Times in which he clearly announced his country's intention of evicting all the Palestinians now living in Kuwait. The paper said the statements coincide with the ongoing atrocities committed in Kuwait against the Jordanian and Palestinian people who had built the emirate over the past four decades and are now rewarded with humiliation, assassination, and eviction. The paper quoted the Kuwaiti ambassador as saying that the Palestinians in Kuwait would be replaced by other nationals from the Philippines and India, and the Kuwaiti government could if need be, transport 200,000 of the Palestinians to America where people have been voicing concern over the plight of the destitute people. Such statements, coming in the midst of ongoing atrocities and acts of intimidation, terrorism and barbaric actions, can only point to the fact that the little sheikhs of Kuwait are not only unable to control matters of government in their little country but are also adopting official government policy against the oppressed people in violation of human rights and all principles and laws, the paper pointed out. The show trials in Kuwait, the detention and torture of Palestinians and Jordanians as well as the other outrageous acts call for condemnation on the part of the world community which, the paper said, should intervene and put an end to the ordeal of innocent people.

'Jordan is the cradle of monotheistic religions... it must be a country where human rights are respected and the people open to the world'

## King: National unity, consolidation of democracy guarantee progress

Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's letter of designation to Prime Minister Taher Masri on Wednesday, June 19, 1991.

His Excellency, our brother Taher Al Masri, may God protect him.

We have had the pleasure of knowing you closely for nearly two decades, during which we followed your performance and achievements in every post which you occupied. You have always been efficient, faithful, devoted to your work, constantly developing your experience, and always capable of benefiting from it. You have always shouldered your responsibilities with courage, awareness, and faithfulness, remained committed to the good of the country, worked for its dignity, and upheld in your positions and work, Jordanian national unity, which is the basis of national fortitude and progress.

In view of the resignation of the government of His Excellency Mr. Mudar Badran, we are pleased to entrust you with forming and leading the new government, just after the National Charter gained the blessing and endorsement of the people, and at a time when our country passes through delicate circumstances which require much care and attention, and much diligent work at all levels and in all fields to complete the work started by the former government in consolidating the democratic process and confronting the economic and social problems which have escalated because of the Gulf crisis. This will require mustering the nation's will, determination, resources, and efforts. It will also require a comprehensive and responsible outlook to the general domestic situation, the painful Arab reality, and the world developments in progress, as well as the resultant policies and orientations which will affect this region, of which our country is an integral part.

Our people's endorsement of the National Charter marks the beginning of a new phase which calls on us to assert the following principles, concepts, and fundamentals, as the basis of your government's programme, until the realisation of our objectives, with God's assistance:

### On principles:

First: National unity is the basis of the nation's fortitude and progress. Jordan has always been and will always remain the haven for all Arabs, and an integral part of the Arab nation. We Arabs have long sung the praises of unity, raised its slogans, and sacrificed for it. We have always asserted that Jordan is the country of the Muhajirin and Ansar (Jordanians and Palestinians), and acted on the basis of this fundamental principle to keep this country as one family, where all the people enjoy their full constitutional rights, where all stand equal before the law, and where everyone is committed to their national duty within the framework of an institutional state of law.

Second: This country is the cradle of monotheistic religions and human civilisation on this small planet. Therefore, it must be a country where human rights are respected, and the people are open to the whole world... A country where the people uphold the legacy of high morals and good character, build bridges of confidence with others, and seek to secure mutual interests on a basis of mutual respect. These are fundamental issues that require everyone concerned to respect his freedom through respecting and caring for the freedom of others. The heritage of our civilisation, our awareness, and our faith in our message, require that we transform our country into a beacon of light rather than a focus of absorption in political thought and standards, so it becomes a model for our brothers in all countries, and for future generations.

Third: The strength of a nation springs from the strength of its people. The strength of a people springs from the distinctiveness of the individual citizens, and their organisation in progressive systems that channel their potential with confidence and creativity to the good of the nation. Only then the people become more deserving and capable of shouldering their responsibilities and facing their destiny. It is high time that we let this concept prevail, so that the people can close their ranks and stand united.

Fourth: Over the thirty eight years during which I have borne the responsibility, I have never known myself, nor has anyone known me to be but an Arab

Hashemite. Nor has Jordan ever been known to be otherwise. Together we have borne the message of the Great Arab Revolt. My only concerns have been the aspirations of the nation and Jordan, and Palestinian cause, which is our first cause, and the first and most cherished cause of the Arab nation. Neither we, nor you have ever wanted Jordan to be but strong in its resolve, reliant on itself, and believing in God and His message. In the position which I occupy, and in the positions I have upheld, I have always been for all Arabs, in the same way as our good and proud people, and our professional and pure Arab Army, which has never gone astray in the labyrinth of politics, mutiny, and factionalism. A country with these characteristics must always be the most concerned to embody cohesiveness among its people and all the Arab peoples. It is certain that Arab unity will never be realised until fundamental problems have been overcome, until the Arab people exercise their right to freedom and democracy and endorse scheduled programmes for the processes of complementarity and unity, and develop them into reality. We have the best example of this in Europe which was the theatre of two world wars and the Cold War in the course of this century. It overcame all this through awareness and concern for the good of its peoples — big and small, rich and poor, have joined together to build together a great European edifice, after turning the chapters of bloodshed, conflict, psychosis, and feuds. We need to follow this example more than others, within a new world order which rejects conflicts of interest and which shows no mercy towards division and scatter.

Fifth: Our fraternal unity in this country, the Muhajirin and Ansar, on the basis of our belonging to one country and one nation, made the Palestinians in this country safe from any loss of freedom, dignity, nationality, or citizenship which afflicts the Palestinians of the occupied territories and those in the Diaspora. They suffer unjust policies that almost deprive them of everything and reduce them to names and numbers on a list entitled "Bidoon" (without). If not for this fraternity, of which we are proud, and for which we care, we would be like others, without dignity, without honour, without a sense of belonging, without even the ability to stand together in the face of difficulties, putting our faith in God first, and in ourselves second, to build our nation, and hold our heads high in dignity and pride.

Sixth: As we observe events unfold: The critical and successive world developments, and the rapid deterioration of the Jordanian, Palestinian, and Arab situations, let us have the self-confidence to tell the truth and defend it rather than hide in fear and complacency behind slogans of nationalism and courage, while our people in the occupied territories hold tenaciously to their land, and defend their title to it and their rights on it. These Palestinians, in my view, and upon my conscience are more honorable and nationalistic than all others. For our part we are for the just and comprehensive solution of the Palestinian problem. We fear God more than we fear his creatures. From him we seek guidance, and him we seek to please. We do not seek bloodshed because our nation was created to spread good, peace, and amity between all nations on earth. We seek a peace that safeguards our rights and which secures a life in freedom and dignity for our future generations.

On fundamentals and objectives: A: On the domestic level:

First: To enact or amend legislation concerning the completion of the democratic process, and to start implementing political pluralism. Primary among these are the laws on publication and licensing political parties, in accordance with the constitution, guided by the principles of the National Charter and our guiding address delivered before the National Congress after the Charter was ratified, and in the higher interest of the state.

Second: Notwithstanding our faith in the awareness of all segments of our people in the importance of national unity, and notwithstanding our solid conviction that democracy is one of the most important pillars of national security, the preservation of national unity requires the utmost alertness against all who try to

undermine it as well as firmness in dealing with them. National unity is not only the basis of our strength, progress, and survival, but also the way to regain our historic rights in Arab Jerusalem. These rights derive from the Pact of Omar which we uphold as dearly as our religion and all that is holy.

Third: Democracy does not consist merely of institutions. It is a universal process and a way of life. To foster it and consolidate its concepts, all public and private institutions must adapt to it in thought and deed. This will be enhanced by the adoption of educational courses in all appropriate educational and cultural institutions, on democracy, its bases, ethics, and responsibilities, as reflected by the constitution and the National Charter.

Fourth: Our national economy has managed to survive the Gulf crisis and its consequences. This may be due to the improvement of economic performance during the first half of 1990. But the Gulf crisis has obstructed the implementation of the economic adjustment programme. Investment levels have declined and government revenues and the balance of payment were negatively affected.

Correcting the internal and external imbalances in our economy needs to hold the top priority among all national economic policies because any sustained healthy economic progress depends first and foremost on success in correcting these imbalances.

The government must work to create a good environment to raise the levels of savings, productivity, and exports. This will prevent or limit capital flight, and attract Jordanian capital from abroad.

Therefore, it is our belief that the government should pursue a policy that aims to revitalise the national economy and restore growth through a three-pronged approach:

I) To halt the decline of real gross domestic product and to achieve growth at levels set for each coming year, which would be an objective everyone seeks to realise. Growth should be achieved through increased investment in productive sectors, the utilisation of available resources in production, the activation of unemployed resources in the national economy, and overcoming any bottlenecks in ancillary services.

II) Realising internal and external balance through raising national savings and reducing consumption from the gross domestic product, improving the overall fiscal situation of the state and the current account of the balance of payments, raising national exports, checking the rise of imports, and raising the revenue from tourism and other economic sectors through a pre-set multi-year plan.

III) Achieving a fair distribution of national income between all segments of society to check the effects of the rise in unemployment, poverty, and inflation through fiscal, monetary, economic, and investment policies.

Concerning development, it may be appropriate to draw a comprehensive mid-term development plan, whose framework must be drawn immediately. It should aim at socioeconomic development and depend on the three-pronged approach outlined above.

The plan must also depend on institutional development and on creating the appropriate environment for activating the private sector and attracting local and international investment capital.

As a result of the Gulf crisis, our country received a wave of returning expatriates from Gulf states, which reached nearly 200,000 people. This has placed an additional burden on our resources and economy. The government must quickly draw the appropriate plans for their absorption and incorporation in the national economic cycle, so they can be catalysts for its reactivation rather than burdens on it and on themselves. First and foremost, they are our people and we must look after them, as they constituted, over many decades, a source of economic prosperity and growth, and a mainstay of the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories.

Fifth: Comprehensive socioeconomic development is the umbrella under which should fall all the plans and programmes for development, expansion, and sectoral growth in Jordanian society.

The importance of the social

dimension of growth in Jordan springs from the importance of the human factor, which is the focus and objective of development at the same time. The scarcity of available economic resources in this country necessitates that we intensify our emphasis on training human resources and launching industrial, agricultural, and services projects which depend on creativity, high technology, and administrative ability.

Therefore, it is important to concentrate on the social package which includes a number of factors related to comprehensive total development. Most prominent of these factors is the organic relationship between the human factor, land, and natural resources. We should also concentrate on containing and redressing pockets of poverty, opening channels of communication and interaction between the citizens and the administrative and service agencies, and developing the concepts and methods of training, and developing manpower.

It is also essential to institutionalise the channels of communication and interaction between the citizen and officials in the fields of administration and services, in the private and public sectors, by establishing a "Citizens Advisory Bureau" in order to ensure that social and economic institutions remain aware of and responsive to the needs of citizens, and solve their problems in a modern and civilised fashion based on appropriate mechanisms for coordination and follow up.

Sixth: Food and water security is an essential matter because of the scarcity of water resources in Jordan. This requires responsible and effective agricultural and water policies. I must stress here that our country is arid, and it has little rainfall. It is desperately in need of intensifying forestation and protecting forested areas, regardless of any pretexts or reasons, we must not, under any circumstances, destroy our forests while we are at the fore of those concerned for the conservation of the environment and are committed to this policy on the national and international levels.

Seventh: The tourism sector is one of the most important economic and social sectors in Jordan. It has always made a noticeable contribution to supporting the balance of payments and reducing the Jordanian trade deficit, apart from its prominent role in promoting awareness of Jordan's civilisation, history, and culture, and in gaining friends for our country.

Therefore, we must develop this sector to make it a main contributor to the national economy. This requires drawing a comprehensive sectoral plan with the contribution of all concerned, to create an appropriate environment for tourism by educating the young of its importance, providing the necessary infrastructure in all parts of the Kingdom, developing training programmes, encouraging investors, especially foreign investors, and intensifying tourism marketing activities.

In this respect, since Jordan is virtually a landlocked country, the national airline is our main bridge to the world. Therefore, the Royal Jordanian Airline must be supported and turned into a public shareholding company owned jointly by the government, the people, and others. The Royal Jordanian Airline is not merely a means of conveyance. It is also an advanced centre for instruction, training, and maintenance. It is a landmark of progress and a mass of communication with the world and its peoples within our region and beyond.

Eighth: We take pride in the judicial system in Jordan, particularly in its total independence and the inviolability of court rulings. However, the judicial system should receive a level of attention compatible with its honourable past on the one hand, and with our developing needs on the other. Updating laws and legislation has become a pressing need in order to face new problems and issues, brought about by new developments.

The close interlink between countries requires increased attention to Jordan's legal relationship with the International Court of Justice, Amnesty International, the agencies of the United Nations Organisation, and any regional or international agencies to which Jordan is linked, or with whom we have common interests.

Since trade is an issue of major

importance to Jordan, we see the need to create a court of trade to deal with cases that arise between Jordanian businessmen at home and their counterparts abroad.

Moreover, as the judiciary is the body responsible for justice, court procedures, and updating laws and legislations, it is high time to pay attention to the early training and preparation of judges before they assume their responsibilities.

Ninth: God has blessed us with the mind for us to use, and to distinguish us from other creatures. Suspending this faculty or undermining it is a violation of this Divine gift. Moreover, one of the reasons for the prosperous and more powerful world, is the different level to which the mind is used in facing problems and solving them.

Therefore, the Educational Development Programme, whose foundations are being laid now, must aim to encourage our children to think objectively and debate. It must develop their capacity for analytical and conceptual thinking. Teaching sciences must also receive its due share of attention because today's world is one of science and technology. A country whose resources are scarce must concentrate on educating, training, and preparing its people to excel, thereby compensating for the scarcity of natural resources. We are a country that cannot afford the luxury of an education system that is behind its time. Education policy is a national policy and it is the essence of social cohesiveness. No one has the right to take it off this course for the sake of personal or ideological considerations.

Tenth: Higher education is an important link in the preparation of the outstanding citizen who is qualified for incorporation in the economic life of the state which is linked to the needs of society as well as its development and progress. It is also an important requisite for scientific research.

Many factors contribute to the makeup of a university student, which necessitates paying attention to the student's mental, physical, spiritual, psychological, and social needs. Fundamentally, the student is affected by two main factors: The academic factor, and that of extra-curricular activities.

The academic dimension is the responsibility of universities and colleges through their curricula, laboratories, and workshops. The second dimension, extra-curricular activities, still awaits due attention. Therefore, I call on every university to draw on various international experiments in this field like the establishment of a university councils with faculty and student participation, to discuss objectively and rationally basic social, economic, and cultural issues, without giving the right of hegemony to the thoughts and opinions of any group over others. Through this institutional framework it would be possible to establish debating societies for intellectual dialogue at college level.

Eleventh: We are an Arab Muslim people that takes pride in and upholds its faith and heritage. Our Arab and Islamic ethics teach us amity, tolerance, cohesiveness, and fraternity. They forbid us from sowing the seeds of vengeance, hatred, discord, sedition, and such. The force of instruction, in mosques, schools, and the press must therefore conform with the Divine command for dialogue in wisdom and good counsel; and they must conform with our noble Arab heritage of refraining from libel, slander, and intellectual and psychological terrorism, and refraining from arousing the young and pushing them to certain death by portraying suicide to them as martyrdom. This, as God is my witness, is an unforgivable crime, devoid of religion, responsibility, or ethics.

Twelfth: The conservation of the environment is not a luxury but a national and human duty because of its direct connection with humanity's life economy, progress, and even survival. Therefore, we must accord it the priority it deserves in all state activities and make it one of the components of our national culture.

B- On the Arab Level: The least that can be said about the Arab situation that resulted from the Gulf crisis is that it is painful. Arab solidarity may now be in a state of dilapidation and retreat, but the principle of Arab solidarity remains in our hearts

and minds, here in Jordan and among Arab peoples, a vibrant and sound principle which must be upheld and vitalised. Therefore, our Arab policy must spring from this basic principle as it has always done. We shall do all that we can to show initiative and cooperate with every Arab party which seeks Arab reconciliation and the rectification of the present situation, and which seeks complementarity and a return to Arab solidarity, benefiting by the recent experience of our nation. We believe that the starting point must be activating the Arab League and its agencies in a spirit of cooperation and common awareness that no one has an alternative but to cooperate with all others, and that there is no alternative to rapprochement and reconciliation if our states are to live, individually or collectively, in dignity on our Arab soil. The call for the amendment of the Arab League Charter to make it conform with the lessons of the Gulf crisis is more logical than ever before, particularly as the Arab nation stands at a crossroads which requires review and reassessment, and the selection of a sound course.

### C- On the international level:

Deep changes have occurred in international relations and shifts have taken place in centres of power. These must be taken into consideration, particularly since they are accompanied by new policies and outlooks that reflect on bilateral relations and within the various international agencies. We must adapt our concepts and foreign policy to conform to our interests in view of these changes and to open up to the world in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with the principles of mutual respect and mutually beneficial exchange.

### D- On the Palestinian problem:

The Palestinian problem continues to be the focus of our attention and concern, and it will remain so until the nightmare of Israeli occupation is lifted off Arab Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, and until the Palestinian people gain their right to self-determination on their national soil. We shall continue to cooperate with our Arab brothers and particularly those directly involved, until international legitimacy is applied to the Arab-Israeli conflict and we achieve a comprehensive and just peace that brings prosperity to all the peoples of the region. On this basis, we have welcomed the most recent political initiative which committed itself to a comprehensive peace, based on the principle of territory for peace and Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. We shall also remain open and ready to cooperate with all international efforts to resolve the conflict peacefully, and we shall continue our dialogue and diplomatic efforts with all governments and effective forces to apply international legitimacy to the Palestinian problem.

As for the Armed Forces, the protective shield of our nation, we must intensify the attention that they receive. As Supreme Commander we have given our orders to start the necessary studies to reorganise the armed forces emphasising quality and balance rather than quantity, to make them more professional and capable. This will involve many aspects which include retiring old generations of certain weapons and replacing them with modern weapons compatible with advanced technology.

We must also pay due attention to the security services and develop them in quality to enable them to fulfill their duties in view of the developments and complexities faced by society, particularly with respect to consolidating the democratic process. The most prominent features that go hand in hand with democracy is the necessity for all the people to abide by the law and respect it rather than fear it, and for the security services to protect the law.

Awaiting your recommendations of the names of your colleagues, the ministers, and assuring you of our full support for, and confidence in you, and wishing you success in your task, we pray to God to guide us and grant us success.

May God's peace and blessings be with you  
Amman, 19 June 1991



# Weekender

## Peasant boy's visions yield treasures

By Katia Sabat

CAIRO, Egypt (WNL) — His elder sister would go to the workshop every evening to take down her latest creation, which she had left to dry in the winds. As a small boy he used to go with her. The two — he in a striped kaftan, feet tucked into sandals, and she in a flowered robe — looked every inch the simple peasant children they were some 20 years ago.

Those times in the Egyptian province of Giza seem far away. Abdelnasser Chiha has become an internationally famous artist. So, for that matter, has his sister, Faiza. Her tapestries adorn embassy walls in Washington, D.C. His works — large, colourful wall hangings — add a splash of light and movement to the corridors and public rooms of a five-star hotel on the banks of the Nile. Hundreds more are in private hands, some owned by collectors in Rome, Paris and Vienna. Others are on show at an exhibition currently being staged at Cairo's Foreign Cultural Centre.

The Chiha siblings' enormous success is all the more surprising considering that neither showed any particular artistic talent as a child. Both seemed destined for a life working in the fields. "We were peasants," said Chiha, now 32. "There were nine of us brothers and sisters, and between us, we cultivated three feddans." (A feddan is slightly smaller than an acre).

Fate intervened when, first Faiza and later Chiha were chosen to take part in a revolutionary experiment. Ramses Wassef, a man who had been trained as an architect but who had a strong interest in the concept of primitive art, set out to prove that children who had not been exposed to cultural or academic influences could, with the right encouragement and training, reach high levels of creativity and be capable of projecting the spiritual and artistic heritage of their forefathers.

Wassef died two years ago, but his unusual school still operates today under the guidance of his wife, Sophie. Its origins go back almost 40 years, when the young architect and his wife decided to make their home in Harrania, a small village a short distance from the Giza pyramids. Wassef

built his house and studio himself, using clay bricks and choosing a simple Islamic style that has since become highly fashionable. Then he summoned the children of the village to begin testing his theory.

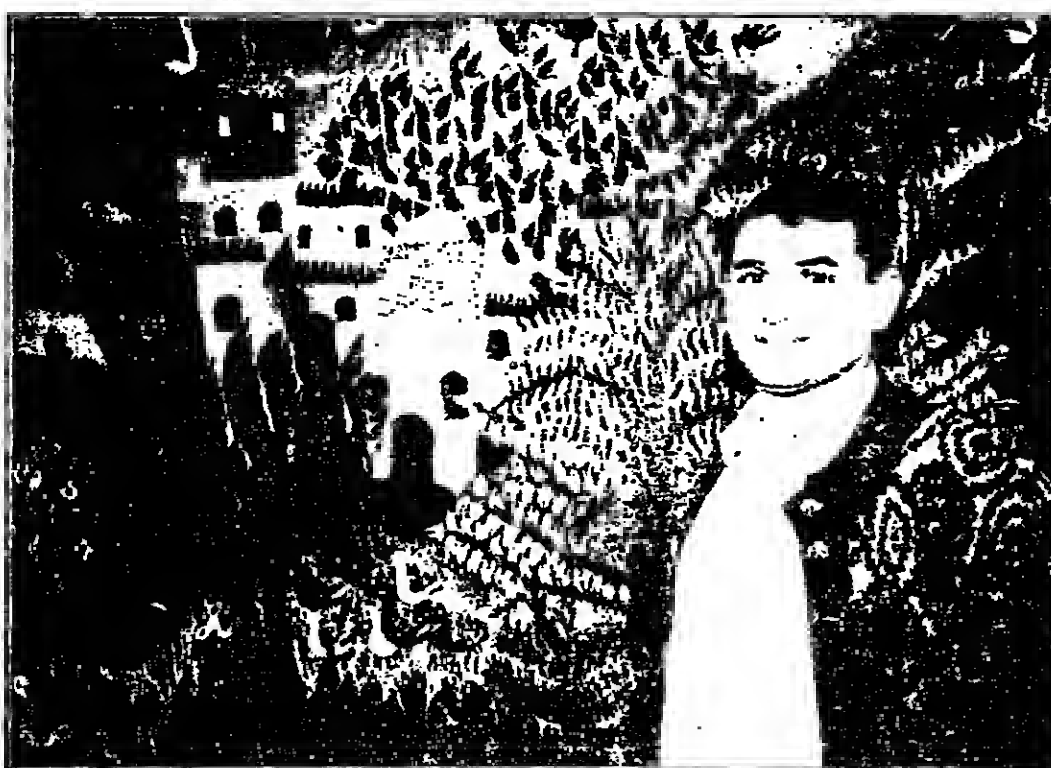
Wassef's first challenge was to choose the right medium for the children. His idea was to select an art form that would encourage spontaneous expression and at the same time give the uneducated youngsters a way to communicate. He decided against painting and drawing, judging them too easy and immediate for the children he wanted to study. He also dismissed sculpture and pottery as too time-consuming and heavy.

Then he hit on the idea of weaving, where the young artist and the loom, the technique and the imagination, would be perfectly balanced. He got together a group of children aged between 8 and 10 and gave them a weaving loom and skeins of wool yarn dyed in a myriad of hues that Wassef had himself extracted from various plants, using ancient recipes.

The children soon became interested, and learned to set the looms and choose the shapes and colours for themselves. And very quickly, they began using the loom to turn out the primitive and brilliantly coloured images of their own small world. It wasn't long before the results were being seen far beyond the confines of Harrania. The children's weavings travelled the globe, to unanimous critical and public acclaim.

"Human freedom is never so important and valuable as at the moment in which it allows a child to express his creative powers," Wassef once said. "All children are gifted with these creative powers, which include an astonishing range of potential and which are essential to a balanced development of any child." Several years after his first experiments, Wassef began to explore another art form — an ancient technique, originating in the Far East and discovered by Europe in the 1920s. These days it is used widely in interior decorating and haute couture. The technique is batik.

Abdelnasser Chiha has never studied the history of



this delicate art form. But he is an expert on its use. This is the medium he has chosen as his own, and he has become a master in creating colours and shapes. The satisfaction Chiha derives from working the fabric, he says, is as great as that of any artist working in more traditional media. Under his nimble fingers, sheets of cloth are transformed into living designs — fantastic birds with soulful eyes, strange fish that smile with wisdom, gentle cows and sheep in the fields, fabulous villages, perched high on hills made of gold and emerald. The "Thousand and One Nights," which Chiha has never read, lives again through his creations and his colours — ruby red, turquoise blue and topaz, the precious stones of the treasures of Ali Baba.

People who see Chiha's work for the first time usually experience astonishment, rapidly followed by a desire to understand the technique that allows the artist to produce such a stunning variety of colours, shapes and shades. He is happy to explain. "I'm continually trying to perfect my craft," he said. "With batik, the technique is crucial, and even the most beautiful work can be ruined if you make a mistake during its execution. First, you pour hot wax over the areas of the fabric that you want to keep white. Then you soak the cloth in the lightest coloured dye you intend using in the

design; that may be pink, yellow or sky blue. You wait for the fabric to dry and then you begin again, covering with hot wax the places where you want to keep the pale second colour. And so on, going from the lightest to the darkest, until the whole cloth has been covered with wax. Then, at this stage I sometimes make streaks in the wax and plunge the whole piece into a bath of dye, usually orange, which gives the design the effect of gold veins running through it."

Using paint strippers, Chiha has also succeeded in creating a special effect on his batik. Part of the blacks and indigos are washed away so that only the outline remains. The darker colour lends definition to the shapes and objects dyed in paler hues. "Some of my pieces have been done with this method, and the effect is very different," said Chiha. "It gives me more freedom in choosing my subjects."

There is a dramatic difference between Chiha's verbal expression and his artistic expression, the latter trimphantly displayed in the Cairo exhibition. The more self-effacing the artist, the more sumptuous and striking are the works he has created. It is as though all the beauty, eloquence and the poetry inside him have been distilled into his wall hangings, and especially into the colours he has chosen.

"These colours are all

taken from plants that I grow on my land," he said. It brings to mind the artists of the early Renaissance in Italy, who used to measure out doses of precious natural dyes, rather like alchemists, for their future masterpieces. Chiha has never heard of the Renaissance or of its painters. But that does not prevent him from having a subconscious link with them. Like them, Chiha has a strong feeling he is following a calling that is useful, necessary and almost religious in its significance, an art form that chance — in the 12th century it would have been called Providence — has enabled him to take up.

Today Chiha no longer lives in the modest clay-brick house in which he was brought up. He has a huge villa filled with sunlight, birds and batiks fluttering in the breeze. He often dresses in a shirt and trousers, instead of the peasant's robe, but his sun-kissed face is still that of the boy Wassef met 22 years ago. And, like most of the young artists from Harrania who have gone on to make a name for themselves, he still wears an expression of wonder, innocence and undisguised happiness.

"My art has enabled me to find my identity," he said. "If it has given me material comforts, it has given me far more in terms of spiritual peace and a clear understanding of my place in the world."

## Hispanic growth changes U.S. racial mix, threatens conflict

By Bernd Debusmann  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Hispanic Americans are set to overtake blacks as the biggest minority in the United States with a generation.

Stuck at the bottom of the economic pile, the two groups are already at odds, with signs of growing friction between them. They compete for jobs and housing in poor districts of American cities at a time when social services are being cut and the economic pie is shrinking for all Americans.

As the ethnic mix in the United States is being changed by a Hispanic growth rate five times as high as the national average, Hispanics feel frustrated by what they see as neglect, indifference and discrimination.

Frustrations and long-simmering tension between Hispanics and blacks in Washington combined to trigger riots on such a large scale that parts of the U.S. capital were placed under a dusk-to-dawn curfew for several days in May.

City authorities hastily created a task force to deal with Hispanic complaints, from harassment by the predominantly black Washington police force to unequal treatment in the allocation of public services.

"We fear what happened in Washington was a harbinger of things to come in many other places," said Raul Yzaguirre, executive director of the National Council of La Raza, a respected think tank on Hispanic affairs.

The Washington riots flared when a black police woman shot a Salvadorean she was trying to arrest for drinking in public. The circumstances of the incident are still in dispute, but it provided a pointer to the potential for violence in cities where poor blacks and poor Hispanics live side by side.

U.S. programmes to promote racial equality have long been tailored for blacks — a form of restitution for the white majority, for 200 years of slavery and another century of legal discrimination. Hispanics, many of them

recent arrivals in the United States, tend to get neglected in "affirmative action," a widely used euphemism for reverse discrimination.

"There are places, like Chicago, where Hispanics make up to 20 per cent of those eligible for housing, but only get 1 per cent of the units," Yzaguirre said in an interview. "Blacks might be 40 or 50 per cent of the eligible population but get 95 per cent of the units."

Such topsy-turvy distribution of resources, Hispanic community leaders say, is particularly common in cities with black mayors and black administrations — Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Washington and others.

There, the ruling black establishment is being accused of treating Hispanics in the same callous way whites treated blacks before the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.

At the height of the Washington riots, Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon noted it was amazing that "every group that has been discriminated against can do the same thing towards others."

John Gaston, chairman of the Department of Minority Studies at Wichita State University in Kansas, said: "What adds to tension and frustration is the fact that social programmes and resources are diminishing."

Black versus brown conflict seems almost inevitable as Hispanics continue to move into cities where they had no presence only a few years ago — and at a rate that will relegate blacks to second place in terms of numbers.

Part of the reason for the rapid growth of the Hispanic community is immigration — both legal and illegal. Judging from the riots in Washington, in a district with large numbers of Central American immigrants, the influx sparks black resentment.

"Check their green cards, turn them over to immigration and get them out of my neighbourhood, out of my city," local talk show host Cathy Hughes said on her radio programme. A host of callers agreed enthusiastically.

Hughes, who is black,

made headlines in 1986 when she led a campaign against the Washington Post's Sunday magazine for alleged anti-black racism. Hughes sympathisers dumped 300,000 copies of the magazine in the street outside the newspaper's building.

"It's sad to say, but there seems to be a natural antipathy among people who are different from each other," said Milton Greenberg, a professor of government and provost at Washington's American University. People tend to share hatreds rather than love."

In Miami, the one major city where Hispanics predominate both in numbers and influence, blacks complain about bias against them and there has been a string of racial incidents.

According to the 1990 census, Hispanics now account for 22.4 million people — a stunning 53 per cent increase over 1980. By most estimates, Hispanics will outnumber blacks — now totalling about 29 million — by around the year 2010.

So far, Hispanics are politically under-represented — one reason why it took a riot to get Washington city authorities to pay attention to them.

According to the National Association of Latino Elected Officials in Washington, 4,004 Hispanics hold public office today, twice as many as a decade ago but only a tiny fraction of the 500,000 elected officials in the country.

Black Americans have roughly twice as many representatives as Hispanics and a number of blacks, though still few in comparison with whites, hold high office and high-profile jobs.

But there is no Hispanic in the Senate, only 10 in the 435-seat House of Representatives and not a single Hispanic governor.

"Lack of political and economic participation (by the Hispanic community) obviously increases the potential for inter-racial conflict," said Sergio Munoz, editor of the Spanish-language newspaper La Opinion in Los Angeles.

## Language choice — English or home brew?

By Jon Miller

MANILA — As students, scientists and executives across Asia flock to language schools to learn English, scholars and policymakers in the Philippines are scratching their heads and wondering where their English skills have gotten them. The trend in this polyglot archipelago is away from English and toward a controversial hybrid language identity that may supersede the need to compete in the global marketplace.

"The language issue is as important as you want to make it important," says Brother Andrew Gonzalez, one of the country's most prominent linguists. Gonzalez, like many Filipino academics, thinks English could play a major role in economic development, and he doesn't favor scrapping it. "It's a plus factor, there's no doubt about it. But the point is you need more than that," he says.

Among the countries of Asia, it is only in Singapore that English has been integrated into everyday life as much it has been in the Philippines. In newly industrialised countries like Taiwan and Korea, and in rapidly

developing countries like Thailand and Indonesia, English has become a priority only after economic growth has forced a greater degree of contact with the outside world.

But if there's one thing the Philippines has had, it is contact with the outside world. Some would say too much — that the fascination with things un-Filipino has damaged the culture. "It's a chicken and egg problem," Gonzalez says. "Does your language itself create national unity, or do you presuppose national unity and then choose a national language as a symbol of that unity? Of course there comes a time when the two reinforce each other, but it seems to me that national unity must come first."

It is widely accepted that, other things being equal, English could give the country a competitive edge. And not just in business. Access to advances in science and technology is almost totally dependent on facility in English. Filipino scientists and academics have an excellent reputation in Asia, but they rarely get an opportunity to put their knowledge to work.

"English is a useful tool that's not being used as it

should be used," states Dr. Edwin Carreon, a university language professor who heads the Centre for English for Specific Purposes. "The door is there, and it's open, but no one seems to want to walk through it." Ironically, English proficiency is a source of pride for Filipinos. A recent essay in a Manila newspaper recounted a trip to Japan, and the difficulty the writer had in communicating there. "The Japanese may be a runaway success in the making of the language of the future — computers — but they are way behind in the language of commerce, diplomacy and of the plain folks of the world today," she complained.

The language debate is as old as the impulse for independence in this former Spanish and American colony. Unlike in Latin America, Spanish colonisers never made much effort to teach their language to the masses, preferring to cultivate an elite Spanish-speaking ruling class. Then, as today, the population spoke a variety of related, Malay-based dialects. About all that is left linguistically of 350 years of Spanish rule are the Roman alphabet and a few Filipinoised Spanish words and 60 million

people with Hispanic names.

The Americans, who ruled the archipelago from 1899 to 1946, put a much greater emphasis on language instruction, setting up a nationwide system of public schools in which English was a major subject. But so many students dropped out along the way that English never caught on as a language of the poor. Still, it was for many years a popular second language, and so when a Visayan-speaking trader from Cebu visited Tagalog-speaking Manila, often English was spoken.

The move towards Filipino has been championed by many nationalists, who say English is a vestige of an abhorrent colonial past. English, they contend, is still the language of the elite. Two years ago the University of the Philippines decided to teach all its non-scientific and non-technical courses in Filipino. Condoning officially what had already happened unofficially, President Corason Aquino authorised high schools to do the same thing.

Gonzalez, who favours a policy of bilingualism, admits that it is difficult to maintain both languages, especially as the quality of the schools deteriorates under the press-

ure of a burgeoning population. "Right now, of 100 kids who start grade one, about 67 finish grade six, and about 46 finish high school," he says. "In a country where the dropout rate is so high, teaching in English is counterproductive. You spend so much time teaching them the language, there's no time for teaching content."

While today the rate of actual fluency is quite low, around 65 per cent of Filipinos claim they can speak some English. The business of government — from speechifying to lawmaking — is conducted in English, although Tagalog-based Filipino is increasingly heard. Signs on businesses are almost all in English, even in rural areas, and American television shows are not dubbed for rebroadcast. English phrases are woven into speech of the less educated, and among the upper classes, Filipino and English are thoroughly mixed.

"Our Thai friends tell us, 'Here we are desperately trying to learn English, and you Filipinos are trying to lose it as fast as you can! But you see, the Thais don't suffer from an identity crisis. And we, unfortunately, do,'" Gonzalez notes.

## Ingmar Bergman teaches lessons of love in new Swedish film

By Lars Foyen  
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — The marital woes of a Lutheran priest and his wilful wife have inspired the most expensive film in Scandinavian history.

Swedish director Ingmar Bergman wrote the script of "Good Intentions" based on the first 10 years of his parents' troubled marriage. But he handed it over to Denmark's Bille August to direct.

A 67 million crown (\$11 million) extravaganza, "Good Intentions" will be shown as a six-hour television series in December and later as a movie lasting two hours, 45 minutes.

August, 41, who won a 1989 Hollywood Oscar for best foreign film with "Pelle, the Conqueror," is Scandinavia's new leading film director. Now Bergman, 72, has stepped down from directing.

"I had been nervous about my ability to muster the concentration for nine straight months of filming," August told a news conference after shooting "Good Intentions." "But it turned out to be an

exciting challenge. It is the best love story I have ever come across," he said.

Bergman, who proclaimed the Oscar-winning "Fanny and Alexander" his grand finale as a director, strictly limited his involvement in the new project.

He helped the producer, Swedish state television's Channel one, to raise the money from TV companies in Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Scandinavia.

He meticulously went over the script with August, and he hand-picked Pernilla August, who played the nanny Maj in "Fanny and Alexander," to portray his mother. The director's father is played by Swedish actor Samuel Frøler.

The film begins in 1909 in the university town of Uppsala when Erik Bergman, a poor and high-principled student of theology falls in love with Anna Akerblom, a beautiful and spoiled upper-class girl.

"It was the classic situation. Her parents are dead set against their relationship. The conflicts are heart-

rending, dramatic and sometimes violent," Bergman said in 1989 when the project was launched.

In the film, the lavish wealth of Anna's home during the couple's romance forms a stark contrast with the Spartan Vicarage in the wilderness of northern Sweden, where Henrik is appointed parish priest and the marriage is put to the test.

"In the beginning they were apparently very happy together but then came strains we can hardly imagine, both at the human and social level," Bergman said. The film ends in the summer of 1918 just before Bergman was born, with the couple determined to face the future despite their differences.

"It is about love between man and woman, parents and children, and between friends. It is about brotherly love, unconditional love, and love of God," August said. "But it is also about love as a seductive, manipulating and destructive force," he said.



## How everyone's parents have suffered

By Maha Addasi

IT seems to be a custom with most parents that along with teaching their children table manners and politeness they also tell them about their own childhoods. How much they suffered when they were children and how privileged their children should be today because of all the facilities they have that they could never dream of ever having.

So it goes that parents tell their children that they never could afford taking the bus to school. "We had to walk to school in snow and rain, and heat and dust because we either bought a bus ticket with our pocket money or we bought some lunch," one parent said.

A friend of mine said that she grew up feeling guilty that she rode the bus to school because her father told her about his days of "suffering" when he used to walk from his house to school "uphill both ways."

"I suffered all those years," she said. "And then it struck me that what goes up must come down too so if my dad walked uphill there had to be a place sloping down too. Right? But I was too young to find fault in my dad so I figured that the school must have been on the top of a hill and that his house was at the top of another and carried on feeling guilty each time I stepped on the school bus," she said.

But there are those children who although young did have some interesting responses to comments like this from parents.

"I wanted to teach my children to know the value of money, how to budget it and why it is important not to spend it unwisely," said one mother of an eight-year-old and a five-year-old, who decided to start telling her children these things early in their lives. "I also wanted them to appreciate what they already had; so I told them how I grew up as a child with no refrigerator in the house till I was 10. And that we did not have television at all," she said. "So my five-year-old looked up at me with a concern etched on his face and a serious question," she added. "Mom? The kid asked, 'Did you see the dinosaurs? Where they really big?'"

"That was the last time I lectured my kids on my childhood 'suffering'. I realised they were too young for that. I'm almost certain now that they think I grew up in a cave," she said with a giggle.

There are more and more examples: "Our whole class at university would have gone through four years of university schooling on the amount you cost us each year for university tuition." Or: "You should be ashamed with this grade, especially that you have all the facilities you need to study; Lights from each direction, a desk to sit at, a comfortable chair. We used to sit on the floor and study to



candle light." What they leave out though is that they also got grades "to be ashamed of." I do not think it's the lighting you study under that facilitates a good grade. I think genes have something to do with it too, (but that is besides the point).

One young parent summed up this subject well when he said that he is afraid that he will always feel guilty. "I felt terrible whenever I heard from my parents how much they endured while growing up, and I fear that the future for my children will be as bleak especially. With the ever-rising cost of living and the inavailability of jobs even to very well educated people. I fear the day when I would be telling my children how wonderful it was to have three televisions in the house and to own two cars and feel guilty because they are walking to school and back 'uphill both ways,'" he said.

## Raffles Hotel to reopen in Singapore's concrete jungle

By Jennie Kantyka

Reuter

SINGAPORE — About 100 years after the first curry was served in its tiffin room, when tigers still roamed the dense tropical forests, Raffles Hotel will open its doors again amid the concrete jungle of modern Singapore.

By September, Raffles will have been restored to its heyday of 1910-1930 at a cost of 160 million Singapore dollars (about \$90 million).

"We're looking at a period when she was a grand old hotel of Asia — when she was ... probably the most famous hotel in the world," said general manager Jennie Chua.

Raffles, once a seafaring hotel surrounded by swaying palms, is now dwarfed by soaring skyscrapers and over-looks busy highways instead of bobbing sampans.

But the owners, Raffles Hotel (1886) PTE LTD, plan to recapture Raffles' old colonial charm and evoke memories of a bygone era. Named after Singapore's founder Sir Stamford Raffles, the hotel was opened in 1887 by the Sarkies brothers three Armenian hoteliers who came to seek fame and fortune.

"People first started travelling for pleasure about a hundred years ago. It was when that happened that

something like the Raffles could be supported in Singapore," said Gretchen Liu, curator of the Raffles Hotel collection.

"A stay in Raffles Hotel became very much a part of a trip to Asia," added Liu, an American who has spent the past 18 months researching Raffles history and gathering Raffles memorabilia from around the world.

Raffles Hotel, set among tall palm trees, was built in the French renaissance style. Slow ceiling fans, wickerwork China and solid silver cutlery helped it maintain its colonial atmosphere until it closed in 1989.

Two of its earliest guests in the 1880s were authors Joseph Conrad and Rudyard Kipling. "Feed At Raffles," Kipling advised after his stay. In 1921, Somerset Maugham made his first of many visits and sat all one morning writing under a frangipani tree in the hotel's palm court.

Stage and screen guests of the 1920s and 1930s included Noel Coward, Charlie Chaplin and Jean Harlow.

When Singapore surrendered to the Japanese in 1942, British colonialists gathered at Raffles to dance and sing. "There'll always be an England." The silver roast beef trolley and other hotel treasures were buried in the palm court where they remained until Singapore's liberation in 1945.

During the Japanese occupation, Singapore was renamed Syonan (the Light of the South) and Japanese officers who took over Raffles called it Syonan Ryokan.

When the Japanese surrendered, Raffles became a temporary shelter for hundreds of prisoners of war rescued from internment camps.

In the 1970s it was in danger of being demolished after several years in the red, but was saved by a flood of protests and declared a national monument in 1987.

The restored Raffles will have 104 suites ranging in price from 600 to 6,000 dollars (\$40 to 3,400). A night, all with marble bathrooms, hardwood floors and high ceiling fans. Oriental rugs and period engravings will decorate floors and walls.

The billiard table under which, according to legend, the last tiger in Singapore was shot will be in use in the bar and billiard room.

The Singapore sling, a cocktail of gin, cherry brandy and cointreau invented by Ngiam Tong Boon in the long bar in 1915, will be served in all the new Raffles bars.

General manager Chua said Raffles will once again be an exclusive grand hotel but at the same time a major tourist attraction for Singapore.

"The challenge is to reconcile these two elements so a person who is paying 600

dollars feels he has his exclusivity, and the man who just walks in for a Singapore sling also enjoys the mystical ambience," she said.

Certain areas including the palm court will be for guests only. "We're projecting a residential feeling like staying in the house of a rich friend," said Chua.

She said the hotel had bought three London taxis which will be sprayed burgundy and decorated with the Raffles logo. These would be equipped with telephones, and classical music and ferry guests to and from the airport.

The hotel is aiming for a two-night minimum stay. "We feel Raffles can only be experienced properly if it's taken in sips, not rushed," said Chua.

To protect the exclusive air of the main hotel, coaches will drop tour parties off at the entrance of an adjacent new development where they will be ushered into a Victorian style playhouse and shown an hour-long audio-visual history of Raffles against the history of Singapore.

The new development will also house the long bar. "The long bar has been moved at least four or five times in the history of Raffles so it's not sacrilegious to move it one more time," said Chua.

## The Leper, the bald man and the blind

By E. Yaghi

(Part I)

THIS is a religious story about three wretched men from the tribe of Bani-Israel who lived long ago. God wanted to test them so he sent down an angel. Although the three men were separate entities, they were all tormented by an anguishing physical disability.

The first afflicted man of Bani-Israel was a leper. One day while the leper was hiding in a cave mourning his fate, the God-sent angel tiptoed near him listening as he complained, "Oh, woe is me! Everyone shuns me because of this horrible disease!" he wailed to himself. "I am a leper, the most wretched of the wretched! Surely death is a much better fate than to have parts of my body rot and wither away before my eyes!" As he spoke, the pungent smell of rotting flesh clung to the dampness of the black cave.

With God's permission, the angel appeared in human form. In a kind and compassionate voice he said, "You poor man, what ails you and what would you wish to have the most in order to improve your condition?"

The dirt coloured shroud that the leper wore slipped slightly away revealing a graying portion of the man's decaying body. "I am a leper. Oh how I wish to have beautiful coloured skin and to be rid of this ghastly disease so people will shun me no longer!"

The angel raised his hand and gently placed it on the leper. The leprosy was cleansed and the wish fulfilled. After he cured the leper the angel then asked, "What wealth would you wish most to be granted?"

The leper was astonished at the metamorphosis that had taken place. The colour of his skin was beautiful and he was free from his destructive disease. With a glow of complete happiness the leper said, "Camels," as his fingers touched the beauty of robust and firm skin.

Complying, the angel gave the healed leper a pregnant she-camel. With a wave of his hand, he asked God to bless it. His deed performed, the angel left the delighted leper and went to the second man of Bani-Israel. This man was also accursed for he had become bald not because of time and age, but rather because of a horrible skin disease on his scalp which consisted of nasty boils. The angel's silent footsteps were unheard by the miserable man as he lamented to himself, "Oh, woe is me! People shun me because of my disease. They treat me as if I'm a plague. Surely death is better than such misery!"

Again with God's permission, the angel appeared in human form. "Ah, indeed you are suffering," he said kindly. "What ails you and what would you wish to have most in order to improve your condition?"

The bald man had been hiding among some weeds. He was startled when he saw the angel but said, "As you can see, I have this terrible disease on my head which caused all my hair to fall out. I wish I could have a beautiful head of hair and be cured of these nasty boils!"

The angel placed his hand tenderly on the bald man and cured him. The man's head was transformed into beautiful hair and a healthy scalp. The angel then asked, "What wealth would you like to have the most?"

The man's fingers ran through his hair. Indeed his hair must be beautiful, for it felt soft and rich and his skin felt smooth and silky. He answered with a big smile and great satisfaction, "I wish I had some cows!"

The heavenly host granted him a pregnant cow and asked God to bless it. Having accomplished his second mission, the angel then went on to the third man who was blind. His invisible and quiet footsteps approached the stricken man who was sitting under some trees crying to himself and saying, "Oh woe is me! Surely few are as wretched as me, for I have never seen the glory of a rising sun, or the enchantment of baby's smile or the mystery of falling rain, or the morning dew which is captured like precious pearls on wild roses." His tears fell on the bark of the tree. "If only I might see, how happy I would be! People shun me because I am blind and treat me as if I'm not human. Don't they know that the beauty of a man is carried within his heart and not on the mantle of his body?"

For the third time, with God's permission, the angel appeared in human form to the blind man and said with compassion, "What ails you and what would you wish to have the most?"

The blind man turned his face in the direction of the angel's voice. He stood up and began to feel the angel's face with his hands. He could tell that the angel must be perfect and beautiful. He replied, "as you can see, I am blind. I would love to see all of God's beautiful creations, such as the rising and setting of the sun, a baby's smile and the morning dew on wild roses!"

The angel sweetly placed his hand on the afflicted man and healed him. The blind man blinked. He could see! He was cured! The angel asked him, "What wealth would you most like to possess?"

The blind man felt he had the best wealth. He marvelled at the miracle of sight, saw that the angel was indeed beautiful and said, "Thank God for the gift of sight! I only wish for a sheep!"

The angel gave the cured man a ewe with a baby lamb and asked God to bless them. His tasks accomplished, he left the three healed men. It would be many years before he would appear to them again, but his coming would change their destinies. (To be continued ...)

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, June 20

8:30 Day By Day

Father Knows Best

A new kid joins the school. He turns out to be his parents' favourite, hence the trouble of keeping him enrolled.

9:10 Deadly Intentions

Catherine settles down to a new life with her parents, but this is not to last because Charles appears again in her life.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Trapped On The 37th Floor

Starring Lee Major and Lisa Hartman

A true story of a tragic incident of people trapped by fire on the 37th floor.

Friday, June 21

8:30 Night Court

Billie And The Cat

Judge Harold this time looks into a strange case, the stealing of a cat Zilma.

9:10 Shakespeare

10:00 News in English

10:20 In The Heat Of The Night

Hot Night

Sergeant Baba is in for a big surprise when he gets along with an out-of-town woman who too a fancy on him.

Saturday, June 22

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:00 Encounter



Faye Dunaway in Mommie Dearest

Rami Khouri hosts Dr. Albert Mikheibar, President of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee. The discussion centres on the role of the organisation in combating U.S. domestic human rights violations and what it does concerning educating Americans about Arab affairs.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

Mommie Dearest

Starring: Faye Dunaway and Howard de Silva

This movie tells the life story of Hollywood star Joan Crawford — her rise to fame, her relationship with her family and her ups and downs.

Sunday, June 23

8:30 Yes Minister

Big Minister

Some people circulated the charge concerning the government's control over its citizens through the "National Data Base." The Minister goes on TV to answer to the charge, and surprises everyone.

9:10 Great Journeys

Russia's Road West

The author of the documentary travels to the Baltic states — USSR — in

bers have to change attitude and grasp the true meaning of unity and cooperation.

Tuesday, June 25

8:30 Perfect Strangers

Safe at Home

Coping with sophisticated technology proves to be beyond Harry's mental capabilities.

9:10 Adventures in Space

Having reached the moon, man now is looking forward reaching beyond the moon.

10:00 News in English

10:20 French Feature Film

La Belle Affaire

A coupe bought a cafe-bar place, expecting to lead a normal business life, but drug-traffickers wouldn't let them.

Wednesday, June 26

8:30 Don't Wait Up

Tom discovers that he can make some profit from the sale of Helen's house, now that she walked out on him.

9:10 Our House

Chrissie learns that tragedy brings people together in spite of their differences.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less

One of the victims is about to marry the conman's daughter, and the others are going ahead with their plans and it looks like there is no escape for Harry.

Monday, June 24

8:30 Empty Nest

Barbara is having a hard time endearing a handsome man. Her daddy offers an advice.

9:10 Murder in Texas

Undaunted, Joan's father keeps investigating his daughter's murder case, to little avail. Meanwhile, John is having problems with his sanity.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

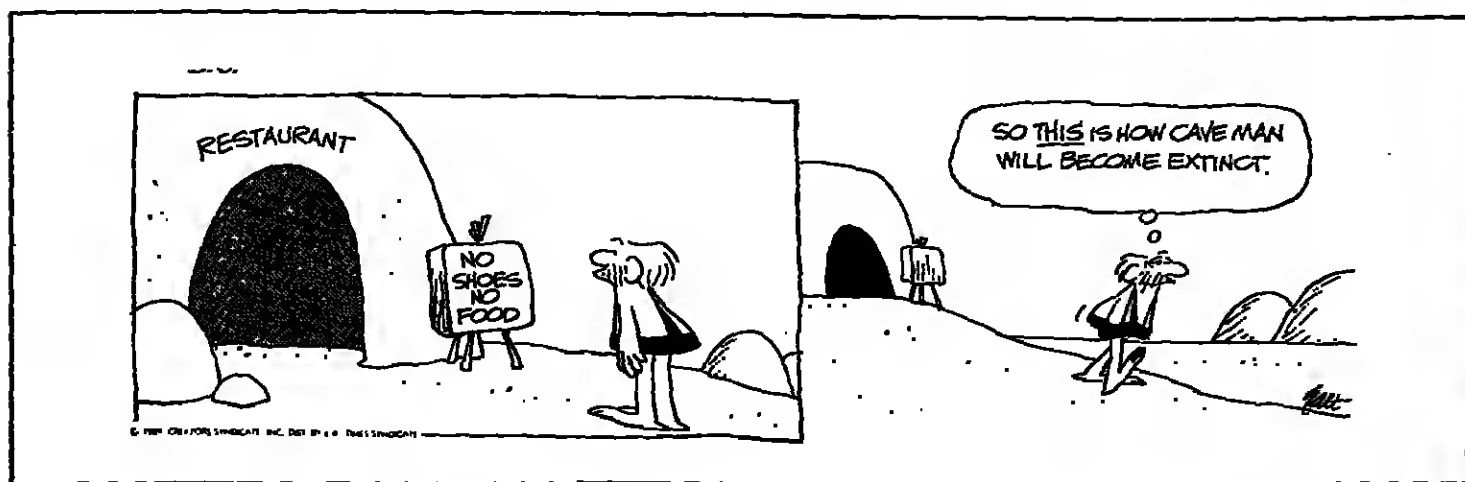
The Good Family

Starring: Mary Tyler Moore and Tony Curtis

When a heterogeneous family loses its father and wealth, it learns that its mem-



Mary Tyler





## Traditional folk theatre fights modern challenge

By Ninos Konstandaras  
The Associated Press

ATHENS — Greece's Shadow Theatre named after its Everyman hero Karaghiozis, is fighting for survival in a world of mass entertainment and rapid change.

A small band of players has kept alive this branch of the centuries-old shadow theatre which has its roots in Turkey and the Far East.

"But there are only about two or three of us left now," says Evgenios Spatharis, 67, who learned the Karaghiozis Theatre from his father.

"How can a young man follow in our footsteps? We were used to going barefoot and hungry. You have to be hungry to be Karaghiozis, who is always hungry."

The Green Shadow Theatre is derived from the Turkish, which in turn is believed to have come from China centuries ago.

Unlike the religious and moralising figures in the shadow theatres of the Far East, the Turkish Karaghiozis and the Greek Karaghiozis are humorous, everyday characters. The plays blend history with fable and farce.

This form of folk entertainment was widespread for centuries in the Turkish Ottoman Empire. The Greek branch developed after Greece won its war of independence in 1821 after 400 years of Ottoman rule.

Karaghiozis parades all the Ottoman Empire's stock figures — Turks, Greeks, Armenians, Jews, Arabs, Africans and Albanians — and figures from Greek history and mythology, either in old pieces or in modern situations.

The plays always involve Karaghiozis, a barefoot and hungry Greek Everyman with his innate greed, cunning and humour. He invariably overreaches himself but somehow wins anyway. In other instances, when he is a charlatan, he is uncovered by his superiors and is beaten.

He has a long arm, which he uses to steal to beat people and to scratch his head.

Karaghiozis Shadow Theatre developed a rich

tradition with nearly 400 different plays. It was the most popular form of entertainment in Greece for many decades — employing the best storytellers, folk musicians and painters.

Performers have to know a large repertoire of plays that last as long as 2½ hours. They must also improvise and bond with their audience. These difficulties have discouraged new players.

Sofia Michopoulou, 33, the daughter of one of the most famous Karaghiozis players of the century, says that a player must be perfect or not play at all.

"I can play as well as anyone else, both in moving the puppets and in telling the stories. But I don't perform because I can't put on all the voice changes. A player must be able to change voices 20 times in a performance, at least," she said.

The cut-out figures, some of which are up to a metre (3 feet 4 inches) in height, are moved by sticks attached to their midriff and hands.

The Karaghiozis Theatre first fell victim to the novelty and realism of movies in the 1950s. Performers reacted by staging Karaghiozis in movie theatres when films weren't being shown.

Then, in the 1960s, television took people out of the cinemas. So Karaghiozis players began performing on television.

People would rush home from work to catch Spatharis' show in the early afternoon, but they no longer attended Karaghiozis plays in their neighbourhood.

Now, the few remaining professional Karaghiozis players hold weekly theatre performances in city squares, wait for invitations to play, or put on sidoshow at country festivals.

Also, living standards have improved rapidly in the last few decades and Karaghiozis no longer monopolises entertainment in the neighbourhood.

"Children still love Karaghiozis, and they'll watch him any time before watching Batman or Dick

Tracy. But they don't go to him any more," Spatharis said.

"Now, if it is a sunny day, the whole family gets in the car and drives down to the beach. If it's cold and rainy, they stay at home and watch television — they're afraid their children will catch cold."

"In my day, people were poorer and tougher. And they would go and laugh with Karaghiozis, who also was poor and tough," he said.

Spatharis spoke as he set up his stage — a large wooden set with a white sheet against which the colourful leather figures would perform for a women's society at a luxury Athens hotel.

"During the German occupation I played every night... and drew about 900 people on week nights, more on weekends. People adored Karaghiozis. And they loved the epic stories from 1921. It was their expression of resistance against the invader," he added.

Spatharis is now making a television series on the history of Karaghiozis, using plays and figures by past players.

When candles were used to create the shadows, the figures were simple black cut-outs. Later, with electricity, they were printed intricately so that their colours would show through the diaphanous sheet.

Adults and children alike still enjoy this simple theatre with its clever wordplay, despite the sophisticated cartoon figures available in movies and television.

"They love Karaghiozis because they participate in the performance. I can sense what the audience fears, what it wants. I can provoke their pity. I can ask them questions and they can shout out answers. They can cry out warnings when Karaghiozis heads for trouble," Spatharis said.

He added: "I can't see the audience from behind the sheet but my ear is bursting right through it. My ear is my radar."

By Jon Miller

MANILA, The Philippines (WNL) — Street theatre, with its long history of traditional entertainment, is being turned inside out by a French troupe that takes its cues from the absurdities of film and television.

On a recent hot evening in Manila's Rizal Park, the Royale de Luxe demonstrated the secret behind its popularity. Or, rather, showed that there was no secret at all — merely a shift in focus, presenting a show about a show with hilarious effect.

The setting is a park bench. In spite of the heat, swirling snow clings to "Everyman" Louis's overcoat as he stares despondently into space. He looks up and winces as a voice shouts "Photo!" and a flash bulb goes off. A second later a strolling couple approaches. Again the voice shouts: "Photo!" All three freeze, and again the flash goes off. A few seconds later the men are locked in a violent clinch. Again the shout, the freeze, and the flash.

Suddenly the men break apart and sprint away, tearing off their coats. Two sweaty workmen hurriedly haul away the bench and drag out a small table, bolted to a patch of tile floor. Meanwhile, the man who had been dripping soapy "snowflakes" onto a portable fan hops down from a ladder, careful not to bump a tousle-haired woman who is helping Louis into a straitjacket.

This is the manic world of Royale de Luxe, a 15-member troupe that travels the world staging "photo-novels" in parks, on streets and at festivals. With more than 1,000 props and 90 scene changes, the troupe puts on a frenetic 40-minute show, with each scene composed like a photograph in a metal frame.

"Inside the frame the picture is very clean," explains Pierre Orefice, 37, the troupe's producer. "It's only actors. But outside it's the world of the technicians. And the technicians change the props and decor in real time. In a way it's like a puppet show, and in a way it's like a dance. We call it a choreography of technicians."

For the audience, accustomed to films and television, that choreography is at once distracting and hilarious. For if the story takes place within the frame, the spectacle takes

## Ridiculous pictures at an outrageous exhibition



place around it. Company members who in traditional theatre would remain invisible share the stage with the four actors who strike their melodramatic poses for the camera.

"The story is not important, because it's just like every photo-novel," says Orefice. "It's very stupid. There are two men, two girls, there's some jealousy, some noise, some blood. At the beginning it's a very stupid love story, like all love stories in Europe. At the end it's completely crazy. One of the actors goes mad, and you have four dead."

What is important is the element of surprise. "Just when the audience understands what is going on, at exactly that moment the situation changes," says Orefice.

Royale de Luxe always performs in French, and distributes a tongue-in-cheek magazine — laid out like a comic book, but illustrated with black and white photographs — full of French captions. But Orefice says it doesn't matter if audiences understand the language or not. Indeed, in Manila, a crowd of about 2,000 was responsive and enthusiastic.

French audiences do get a bonus. "In France, the public understands the hidden meanings, the puns, because

the text is very comic," Orefice admits. "There is a sort of complicity or connivance between the audience and us. In other countries there is no connivance. There is only immersion in the pictures."

The idea for Royale de Luxe came from Jean Luc Courcoult, an intense, disheveled 36-year-old actor and writer who plays (and actually is) the director, breathlessly reading the script and shouting "Photo!" into a microphone. Courcoult organised his first photo-novel 12 years ago, and the troupe has performed non-stop ever since.

The troupe, which travels 10 months a year through Europe, has always been popular, but a surge in publicity following a major 1990 festival in Avignon, in the south of France, has given Royale de Luxe something close to celebrity status. The French foreign ministry now pays the way on overseas trips (they've performed in more than 20 countries, from Argentina to New Zealand). Since the troupe refuses to charge admission, this sort of support is essential.

It is no accident that the show is free, and that it is performed outdoors. "Inside you only have one kind of audience," explains Orefice. "In Europe, only 7 per cent of the population goes to the

theatre. Inside, actors can't see the faces of the audience. In the street, we are in contact with the people who come to watch. At the end, they stick around, they talk to us."

Courcoult says he has always been drawn to theatre, but the language of his generation is really that of the cinema. Royale de Luxe, for all its silliness, combines the two. "Today, cinema is very important," he explains. "But for me the theatre is the strongest form of art that has even existed, because it is so ephemeral. The image of theatre exists only when you are looking. One moment afterwards it is dead. It is impossible to see this image again. In cinema, it's possible. In sculpture, it's possible. In painting, it's possible. In all arts it's possible to replay an image. But in theatre it is impossible."

And that, of course, is one of the medium's messages. By subordinating the story to the spectacle, the troupe encourages audiences to question the way experience is packaged in modern life. It's a good-humored statement on the futility of framing, of putting on appearances.

In some scenes, the technicians holding the frame have to run to keep up with the action — for instance, a policeman riding a wheel-less

motorcycle. In other scenes the actors must adapt to the frame's limitations. When Louis sits at the table in a straitjacket, technicians skew the entire set (including a portion of wall and a radiator) so that the "shot" within the frame looks as though it was taken from above. A character in another of the troupe's 10 photo-novels is seen strapping phone books to his feet so that he will be as tall as his leading lady.

One of the most entertaining aspects of the Royale de Luxe show is the way that cinema "trade secrets" are exposed. Some are superbly comic. The troupe travels with a car that has been cut in half, to allow for unobstructed views of love scenes in the back seat. A sheet of plywood, painted to look like a road, is hauled to the rear window, and tiny fake trees recede into the distance by means of a crude crank and chain. In other scenes, where wind is required, technicians stand outside the frame with fishing rods, tugging at the actors' clothing with nylon lines.

In a spectacularly gruesome finale, a deranged character goes behind a shower screen and decapitates his former lover. Blood sprays over the screen, then gushes out of the severed head as the actor emerges, holding it by the hair. "When you see only the frame, it's very violent," says Orefice. "But just 20 centimetres away you can see the technician pumping the blood. When it is very violent, but there is still humour, it's not really violent."

Orefice says the troupe finds its inspiration more in movies than in theatre, and he mentions in particular the British comedy team Monty Python and the film director Terry Gilliam, who created the nightmarish black comedy "Brazil." Jean Luc Courcoult, the troupe's philosopher-creator, adds that this reflects a failure of theatre to keep up with the times.

"Four hundred years people have been doing the same sort of theatre," he says, taking a breather while the technicians hose away the fake blood staining the pavement. "It is not our story, it's not our history. It is the history of another people. The important question is: Why theatre? For me, the importance of theatre is to speak to people."

## Pan African Orchestra strives to halt Western cultural invasion

By Gill Tudor  
Reuters

ACCRA — The Pan African Orchestra, striving to push back the invasion of Western culture, uses only traditional African instruments and draws on the continent's indigenous music to produce its haunting and hypnotic sounds.

"It's based on the concepts of independence and self-reliance, which are very important in Africa for social and economic freedom," said Nana Danso Abiam, director and creator of the Ghana-based orchestra.

"Africa is over-reliant on Western resources in music as in many things. It doesn't mean we want to isolate ourselves — the idea is to look at our culture as a first priority."

Most of the orchestra's 25 musicians, whose harmonies and rhythms are rooted in African music, are from villages the length and breadth of Ghana.

Two Gambians joined the orchestra recently with their koras — bulbous, harp-like instruments popularised in the West by players like Guinean Mory Kanté.

Abiam dreams of building a full 108-piece orchestra to unite musicians and instruments from throughout

Africa.

The orchestra, which has won critical acclaim locally since it was formed in 1988, has a unique listing sound marrying instruments from different regions which would not normally be heard together. Some have had to be returned to fit with their unfamiliar bedfellows.

Twelve atenteben, bamboo flutes from south-western Ghana, are backed by a range of drums and the insistent throb of three gyele wooden xylophones from the north-east of the country.

The koras and a pair of gonje, single-stringed instruments played with a bow, complete the line-up.

The music builds simple repetitive flute phrases over complicated layers of percussion — sometimes verging on jazz, sometimes more sedate.

Abiam composes and orchestrates himself, drawing on the wealth of Africa's ceremonial and religious music.

"The traditional resources are so rich that you almost don't have to compose anything," he said, sitting in his accra office-cum-flat packed with recording equipment, sheet music and piles of heavy wooden drums.

Soft atenteben notes wafted from the balcony

where two orchestra members were practising. One of the kora players, an angel-faced youth in a grubby robe, closed his eyes and crooned a wailing tune as he picked over the strings.

Although the music itself is wholly African, Abiam has borrowed techniques such as scoring and notation which are usually associated with the Western tradition.

The softly-spoken 37-year-old has an academic background in music and is equally at home on Western keyboards and guitar as on his atenteben and other African instruments.

Most of his players, who rehearse full-time five days a week, are highly-skilled village musicians who learnt their art verbally. Training in notation saves hours when they are learning new pieces.

Abiam said they had adapted surprisingly quickly to this and other unfamiliar techniques such as starting together on a common count, instead of playing when they felt ready.

He said Western listeners responded well to the orchestra's music. But his main target audience is ordinary Africans.

"It's their thing — We're just processing it," he said.

## Britain loses two leading theatre personalities

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain lost two leading lights of the theatre Friday with the deaths of one of its finest actresses, Peggy Ashcroft, and impresario Bernard Miles.

Both died at the age of 85, and both had been honoured by Queen Elizabeth — Ashcroft with the title of Dame and Miles with a Peerage — for their services to the stage.

Accolades poured in appraising their talents and dedication. Dame Peggy, 83, had been unconscious since suffering a stroke May 23. The Royal Free Hospital said she died peacefully in the presence of her family.

"She was the greatest actress of her generation — the undisputed leading lady of the golden age of Olivier, Gielgud, Richardson, and Guinness," the director Sir Peter Hall said last Friday.

Sir John Gielgud, her partner in many memorable productions, recently praised her as the most "unmistakable" of actresses — "so direct and without artifice."

An exemplary Beatrice, Juliet, and Cleopatra, among many of her Shakespeare heroines, Dame Peggy shone equally in modern plays like Samuel Beckett's "Happy Days" and Edward Albee's "All Over."

After retiring from the stage in 1982, she found a new public worldwide, winning an Oscar for the 1984 film "A Passage to India" and an Emmy nomination for her performance in television's "The Jewel in the Crown."

"The aim of the actor should not be the part, but the whole," Peggy wrote in the 1960s, and the comment was borne out by the breadth and commitment of her career.

Perhaps her greatest stage triumph was with the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1963,

playing the mad, bloodthirsty Margaret of Anjou in "The Wars of the Roses."

Hall, a co-director of that production, wrote in 1983 that her strength was her sense of self: "I think Peggy's a very great person, and her own integrity, her own sense of compassion, her own humility is actually what you see on the stage."

At her 80th birthday gala at the old Vic Theatre in 1987, director Trevor Nunn cast away his habitual restraint: "I am nuts about Peggy. I love Peggy. Peggy can do no wrong, has never done any wrong, will do no wrong."

The world at large however, discovered her after she had retired from the stage.

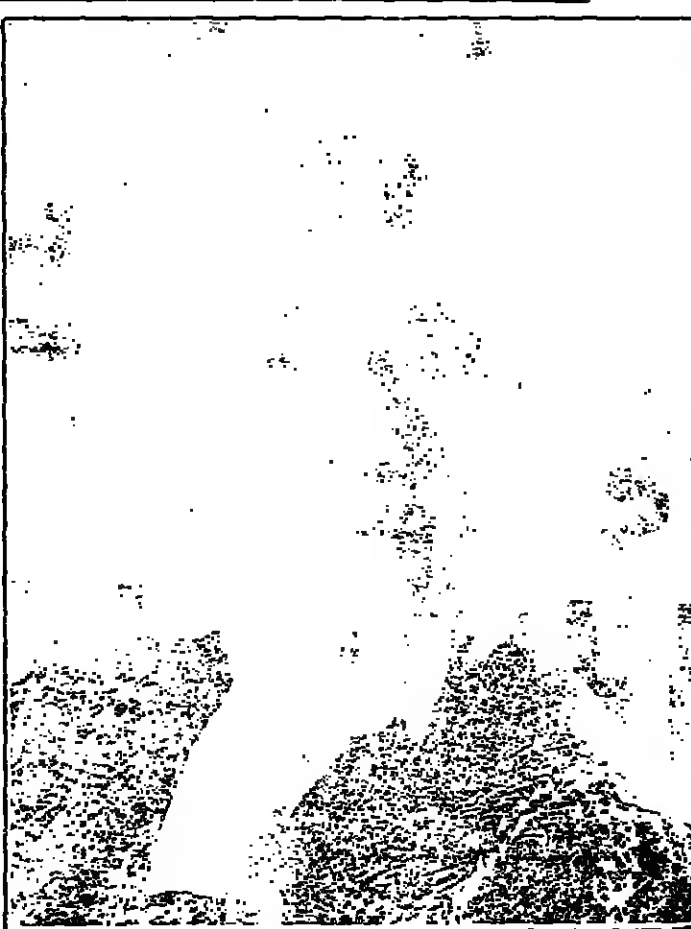
"I think I'm going to be over-exposed after total anonymity," the actress joked in a 1984 interview with the Associated Press prior to the simultaneous American premieres of David Lean's epic "Passage to India" and the 15-hour TV series, "Jewel in the Crown," also set in India.

As the mysterious traveller Mrs. Moore in Lean's movie, adapted from the E.M. Forster novel, Peggy won an Oscar for best supporting actress in 1985.

As Barbie Batchelor, the former missionary in "Jewel in the Crown," she gave a performance which critic John Leonard in New York Magazine called "the best acting I have seen on TV, including Olivier as Lear."

At London's central school of speech and drama, she shared the school's gold medal award with classmate Laurence Olivier.

Dame Peggy's most frequent collaborator was Gielgud, who cast her as Juliet at Oxford in 1932 in his first professional



Peggy Ashcroft

directing assignment. She later played Ophelia to his Hamlet, Titania to his Oberon (1944-5), Cordelia to his Lear, and Beatrice to his Benedick (both 1950). A founding member of the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) in 1961, Peggy divided her later years on stage between Britain's two great subsidised companies — the RSC and the

National Theatre.

In 1975, she starred in two of the opening productions at the national's new home on the south bank of the Thames River: Ibsen's "John Gabriel Borkman" and Beckett's "Happy Days."

Her final stage role was as the countess in a 1982 RSC production of Shakespeare's "All's

Well That Ends Well."

Her only New York appearances were in 1937 in Maxwell Anderson's "High Tor" and in 1947 in Robert Morley's "Edward, My Son."

Apart from the burst of activity in her late 70s, Peggy's film career was modest. She had a small role in Hitchcock's "The Thirty-Nine Steps" (1935), and appeared in "The Nun's Story" (1951), "Sunday Bloody Sunday" (1971), and "Joseph Andrews" (1976).

In April, she was heard on BBC Radio in the premier of Tom Stoppard's play, "In The Native State."

Peggy rarely discussed her private life, telling the AP: "I do rather abhor gossip, personal interviews. I don't enjoy reading them, and I don't enjoy taking part in them."

Miles, Shakespearean actor and founder of the Mermaid Theatre in the city of London, died virtually penniless at a nursing home in Knaresborough, northern England, which he entered recently after breaking both legs in separate accidents.

Backstage in his heyday he could become a designer, property manager, carpenter, writer, producer or director.

Miles attended a special cabaret in his honour at the Mermaid in March after it became known he was almost destitute.

He and his wife Josephine Wilson, who died last November, had ploughed almost all their capital into keeping the theatre, built in 1959, solvent.

Sir Richard Attenborough, who made his screen debut with Miles in the classic war film "In which we serve," said: "He was a man of burning conviction for all that he stood for."

"His creation of the Mermaid Theatre will remain forever a memorial to his extraordinary vision and work."



## Junk diet spreads child malnutrition in Pacific islands

By Giff Johnson  
Reuter

**MAJURO, Marshall Islands** — Rapid modernisation and the glitter of Western consumerism are causing deaths across the islands of the Pacific of scores of children wooed by advertising to a diet of junk food.

Health officials say there is a rising trend of malnutrition on many Pacific islands.

This is not Africa, where thousands of people lack sufficient food. These are the islands of travel poster paradise — Fiji, the Solomon Islands and the Marshall Islands — where local foods are plentiful.

But malnutrition is a growing menace. For every 10 children admitted to a hospital with severe malnutrition health professionals believe there are 100 or more borderline cases who do not receive treatment.

The culprit, say health workers, is westernisation. Islanders are jumping from a subsistence existence into

urban centres where 90 per cent of their food is bought in shops. Advertising, television, Western education and the consumer society all contribute to the problem.

Health workers say traditional foods have been supplanted by a diet of junk food — popular items include salty potato chips mixed with clam or onion dips, soft drinks, sweets, and chocolate bars.

A visit to a paediatric ward in Majuro, capital of the Marshall Islands, is a grim experience. Half a dozen children in various stages of malnutrition lie virtually motionless, attached to feeding and antibiotic intravenous tubes.

Children lacking Protein and nutritious calories have puffy arms and legs, where fluid collects because there is not enough protein to distribute body liquids normally. The faces of these children — aged between one and five — are lacklustre and vacant, almost expressionless except for a grimace or pain-induced snuffling. Many of them can-

not even raise their own heads because they lack muscles.

Those with Vitamin A deficiency generally have at least one handaged eye which doctors are attempting to save from blindness.

Toddlers who survive bouts of malnutrition may suffer brain damage and stunted physical growth.

"Malnutrition is a result of changing food habits," says Peni Qioniwasa, a health worker with the UNICEF-sponsored family food production and nutrition project in Fiji. "People who are employed are eating more from shops."

Rural villagers who have leaped into the comparative maelstrom of urban life are often at risk of poor nutrition.

Stores with their rows of processed tips and packaged food have replaced the traditional "supermarket" of the islands — the ocean and the land — for a majority of the population. And the result is not encouraging.

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) health worker Teu Manuella of the tiny atoll Republic of Tuvalu observes that people buy Western foods to gain status in their communities.

"Imported food is prestigious," she said during a recent meeting in Majuro of health workers from across the Pacific region.

The Youth To Youth In Health — a peer education programme in the Marshall Islands — performs a skit to confront misconceptions about local and imported "junk" foods.

In the skit, a farmer sells a big box of fresh fruits and vegetables to a young man for \$10, then disappears into the grocery store to buy food for his family with his earnings. His choices? Cheese balls, lollies, chewing gum, soda and candy bars. "All the good stuff," he says.

It is a humorous sketch with a serious message: What people choose to feed their children can cause malnutrition. The message is begin-



ning to get through, but the problem is daunting.

A joint Marshall Islands-UNICEF analysis of the state of children in 1991 said bluntly: "In the years 1981-89 malnutrition was the number one

killer of children 1-5 years old...between January 1988 and October 1989 there were 135 children under five admitted to the Majuro Hospital suffering from malnutrition."

## 'Brain damage can boost performance'

By Rolf Degen

**BRAIN** research scientists used to work on the assumption that the architecture of the mind was mechanical, with specific thought processes housed in separate cubbyholes of the central nervous system.

This theory, which assumes brain functions are localised, means that the brain functions which are affected by an accident can be inferred from the location of the brain injury.

The degree to which they are affected will, in contrast, depend on the extent of the damage the brain has suffered.

Laboratory tests on rats seemed to bear out this assumption, but Göttingen University psychologist Eva Irie, writing in *Brain Research News*, says discrepancies are occurring with increasing frequency.

The location and extent of brain damage seem to have only a limited effect on which faculties are affected. In some cases even massive brain damage is found to have only minor effects.

There have been instances in which brain damage has resulted in an improvement in some intellectual accomplishments of the animals in question.

These observations have led to the inference being drawn that brain function centres may hamper each other. New and improved performance can result when these impediments are eliminated.

Irie compared the findings of experiments on 283 brain-damaged monkeys to gain a closer insight into such phenomena. The animals were put through a number of proficiency tests.

There was found to be no more than a slight statistical link between the extent of their brain injury and the resulting loss of brain power.

The degree of brain damage had no more than an eight-per-cent effect on the monkeys' test ratings, and this figure corresponded to the findings of tests on brain-damaged U.S. soldiers who suffered head injuries in Vietnam.

The effect of head injuries was at times found to stag-

nate or be less serious in relation to the physical extent of brain damage.

Extensive brain damage may make it easier for the brain to relocate activities. Some patients are even said to have regained full intellectual prowess after surgery to remove half their cerebrum.

The location of the damage and the manner of the shortfall are more closely interrelated than this might suggest, however. Temporal lobe injuries affect the ability to make visual distinctions.

The ability to make distinctions by the sense of touch is most seriously impaired by damage to the parietal lobes.

But Irie says this cannot be taken to mean there is a sole and exclusive connection between these locations and the specific deficits.

Injuries in a certain place will merely make the corresponding brain damage like-lier. Injuries elsewhere can at times trigger the same damage and at others cause entirely different shortcomings. This would seem to suggest that, at least to within certain limits, the brain is run along holographic lines.

In the human brain certain parts may play a more significant role in specific functions than others do. Injuries in certain areas can certainly lead to improvements in performance in some cases.

Irie distinguishes between three categories of brain damage. In the first the shortfalls increase with the seriousness of the injury, in the second there is no direct link and in the third more serious injury can lead to an improvement in brain power.

Damage to certain parts of the brain presumably leads to improved performance because competing influences are eliminated. Powers of visual distinction, probably improve because the level of interference caused by data relayed by other senses is reduced.

On the other hand brain centres keep each other at bay by reciprocal inhibition, and that needn't be taken to mean that in a healthy person pointless sabotage impairs mental performance.

The simple fact is that the brain puts most of its grey cells to work on even the most straightforward tasks — Der Tagesspiegel.

## Children's TV diet Ads promote high-fat foods

By Diane Duston

**WASHINGTON** — Children's television in the United States encourages eating habits that can lead to tooth decay, heart disease and cancer, say a congressman and a public interest group.

Every Saturday morning, children tune in to shows sponsored by high-sugar, high-fat and high-sodium fast foods with little nutritional value, said congressman Ron Wyden.

"Saturday morning television advertising is really about food," said Wyden, an Oregon Democrat who is asking four Federal Agencies to look into the situation.

"I am troubled that a time block which demonstrably has a very high percentage of loyal, young, highly impressionable viewers is being used to reinforce poor nutritional values rather than good ones," Wyden wrote to the Federal Trade Commission, Department of Health and Human Services, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and U.S. Surgeon General.

Wyden's letters were based on a study recently released. There was also one public service announcement on

eating by The Centre for Science in the Public Interest, a 20-year-old, non-profit consumer health advocacy organisation based in Washington.

The Federal Agencies had no immediate response to Wyden's letter. However, FCC spokesman Steve Svab said the children's television act of 1990, which takes effect next year, will limit the number of ads allowed during children's shows.

In the late 1970s, the FTC tried to regulate the content of such ads but was pulled off the effort by Congress, which said the agency was overstepping its authority. Critics at the time called the FTC a "National Nanny."

To prepare the latest study, researchers for CSPI watched children's programmes and found that of the 350 commercials, 63.4 per cent were for food.

Of the food ads, most were for cereals, followed by restaurants, candy, beverages, cookies, entrees and chips. Since children influence the food choices in most families, the public would be better served if kids were encouraged to make more nutritional requests, said the congressman.

## Genetic mutations found in people exposed to household radon

**LONDON (AP)** — A radioactive gas found in the home may change the genetic make-up of immune cells, but researchers are not ready to put forth the finding as proof that radon gas causes cancer.

People exposed to high levels of radon in their homes have significantly more genetic mutations on one type of immune cell than those who are not exposed, scientists have reported in a British medical journal.

While many cancers are thought to be triggered by genetic mutations, the study published in the latest issue of the *Lancet*, does not show directly that radon increases the risk of cancer.

Conflicting results have emerged from a spate of scientific studies examining cancer rates in areas known to have levels of radon. Some studies have shown that radon increases the risk of lung cancer or leukemia, while others showed no risk at all.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the gas causes 20,000 cases of lung cancer annually in the United States. Dr. Brian Bridges, leader of a British medical research team, said the occurrence of gene mutations found in people living in houses where radon levels exceed national standards was "comparable to what you find in the blood of smokers."

Bridges said he was stunned by his group's findings, because he had thought that low levels of radon could not affect genetic structure. He plans to repeat the study and launch a broader investigation if he gets the same results.

The researcher conceded that the findings of the preliminary study could have been caused by a statistical fluke, change, or other cancer-causing agents.

Bridges, director of the Medical Research Council Cell Mutation Unit at the University of Sussex in Brighton, headed a team of researchers from the Universities of Sussex and Bristol and the Somerset Centre who examined 20 nonsmokers from Somerset, a county in western England known as a radon hot spot.

Radon gas is emitted by decaying radium, which is found in soils and rocks in many places. Radon seeps into homes from the ground

and can reach dangerous levels in unventilated spaces.

When inhaled, the gas breaks down into radioactive elements, which in theory irradiate cells and damage the genes inside.

The research team measured household levels of radon and took blood samples to measure the frequency of mutations on a gene, HPRT, in immune cells in the blood called T-Lymphocytes. The gene was chosen because it is easy to study, not because it has an association with leukemia, Bridges said.

Bridges said he found an average of 50 per cent more genetic mutations among people living in houses with levels over 200 Becquerels per cubic metre the limit set by Britain's National Radiological Protection Board.

A Becquerel is a unit that measures the number of atoms of radon that decay per second.

The British research is the first to look at specific gene mutations in individuals by comparing residents of the same town, said Dr. Daniel Hoffman, assistant director for science in environmental studies at the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta.

He was intrigued by the findings, but speculated that "other (harmful) agents could have confounded the findings," citing as an example combustion fumes.

Hoffman noted that the "vast preponderance" of data shows that radon enters the body on particles of household dust. It breaks down and clings mainly to the lung, from where it bombards surrounding tissue with radiation.

Other studies have shown that radon infiltrates into bone marrow, too. Still, with so many potentially cancer-causing agents in the environment, not to mention cigarette smoking, it's difficult to blame one particular agent for a genetic mutation.

Opening windows to increase ventilation can reduce radon levels, said a National Radiological Board spokesperson.

Other devices that suck radon back into the ground can be installed under houses, she said, adding that preventing radon from getting into the house is preferable than letting it breeze through.

## Drugs helps Alzheimer's disease

By Randi Hutter Epstein  
The Associated Press

**LONDON** — A drug that neutralises Aluminum slowed the mental deterioration in victims of Alzheimer's Disease in a two-year study with 25 patients, scientists reported in the medical journal *Lancet*.

Dr. Theo A. P. Kruck, a researcher at University of Toronto's Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases, said the drug arrests the disease but is not a cure.

Other experts in the field criticised the design of the

study and said much more research is needed. They also said it is not known whether the drug attacks the disease's cause or merely a symptom.

"He put together a nice story, but the critical piece is missing," said Dr. Creighton Phelps, the vice president for medical and scientific information of the Alzheimer's Association in Chicago.

In a two-year study, University of Toronto researchers gave 25 people with Alzheimer's disease injections of Desferrioxamine two times a day, five days a week. Another group of 23 patients either got a Placebo Pill or nothing at all.

Desferrioxamine binds to Aluminum, a metal deadly to brain cells, neutralising it. The brains of people with Alzheimer's disease are known to have high levels of Aluminum.

"If you remove Aluminum from the cells, you remove the killer metal and the cells won't die," said Kruck, whose research was published in the June 2 edition of the weekly *Lancet*.

But Phelps said that whether Aluminum is a cause or a result of Alzheimer's is still unanswered.

In the University of Toronto study, independent evaluators assessed the level of

the patients' mental deterioration and found the untreated group deteriorated twice as fast as those who got treatment, said Kruck.

Other potential drugs, such as tacrine, have had mixed results and do not seem to have as great an impact on patients' ability to perform daily activities, he said.

There is no known cause or treatment for Alzheimer's Disease, a progressive deterioration that kills brain cells and destroys the brain's function. Alzheimer's disease cannot be diagnosed definitively until a post-mortem examination.

## Weekend Crossword

### APHORISMS

By Olive Duan

### ACROSS

1. Counsel and meander
2. Implore
3. Device used on a rather elite
4. Nodular
5. Sprout-like plant
6. USSR river
7. Tennis great
8. Wear by abrasion
9. Pyramid site
10. Permitt
11. "Chairs"
12. Loose-fitting garment
13. Deceive to deter
14. Ewallowed
15. Large vans
16. Grassland

### DOWN

1. White schools
2. Gloomily
3. Accident
4. Brillance
5. Uppet
6. Mechanical defects
7. Moran or Gray
8. Strip
9. Declines
10. Wall coatings
11. Son of Jacob
12. Cursey sharpener
13. Friend
14. Think
15. Incomprehensible
16. Island near Venice
17. Of some poetry
18. Barret or Jaffe
19. Narrow part
20. Viewpoint

Diagramless 19 X 19, By Craig Scholts

### ACROSS

1. Uncontrolled
2. Dialect
3. Local
4. Assad's country
5. Atom particles
6. Party
7. Old MacDonald's workmate
8. Wading bird
9. Zodiac sign
10. Latin's capital
11. Uncontrolled
12. Rustic poem; var.
13. money
14. Action
15. Partner
16. Owns
17. Put forward as a
18. Unit
19. Autocrat
20. Enlisted soldier
21. In the sack
22. Prevaricated

### DOWN

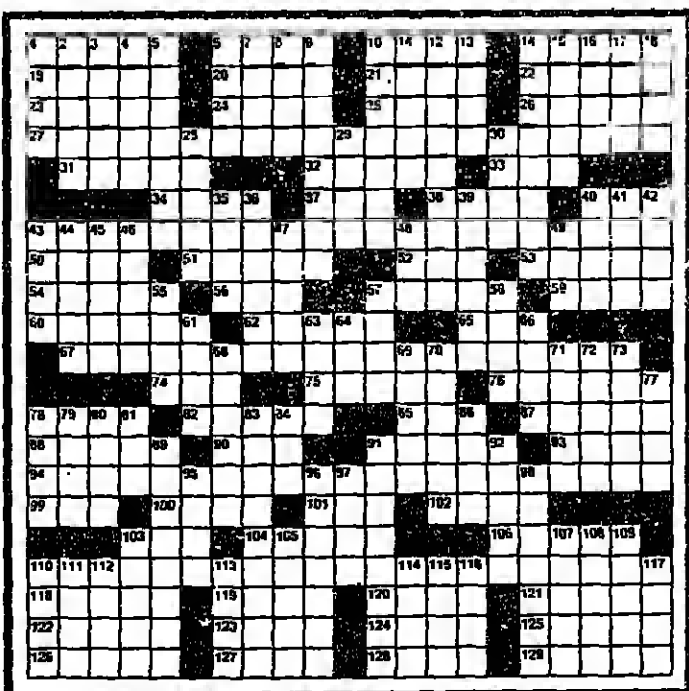
1. Snakes
2. Damage
3. Family circle
4. member
5. Brother or sister
6. Polished arch
7. Olympic star
8. Conch
9. Miso
10. Coriendella Ball
11. High loss
12. Fit to
13. Dam up

### ACROSS

34. Exclamations of disgust
37. Time zone letters
38. Window cable
39. "I am..."
40. Schere
41. Defender to surprise
42. Latin-American dance
43. He raised Can
44. Overhangs
45. Electrics
46. Gown surface
47. Aquat
48. Caducous
49. Sordidities
50. Art style
51. "Dallas"
52. Vaquero's rope
53. Food fish
54. Star to starter

### DOWN

25. William the pirate
26. Shake —
27. Gloomily
28. Zestful
29. Contemptible
30. person
31. Killer whale
32. Or letter
33. Traffic jam name
34. Wine Clifford
35. Noted Eng
36. surgeon
37. minute
38. (radio)
39. Mosquito genus
40. Lubricate
41. Vogue
42. Wings
43. Today
44. Seed for sauce
45. Choir voice



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Country boy joined circus as a juggler, and became big star to fans on zelon farm.
2. Where a lax child's groping reach exceeds his grasp, then that's what a floor is for.
3. It is probable it was once a compliment to be known as a crack salesman.
4. Too many square meals may build quiet a round body.

### CRYPTOGRAMS

1. KBPO GIVRCRBA PXVBTBO EFIXEH TBE  
KIXVJ LPCFFCVM LNEACMNL EYVLELCG  
IV LNH ECJHTBAWE IE VET OIPW.

—By Gordon Miller

2. SKY HEATOFABFB SO FIT XYTTOISEHT  
TZTTEPH CYTC CYT ZYAXIFTOAOX.

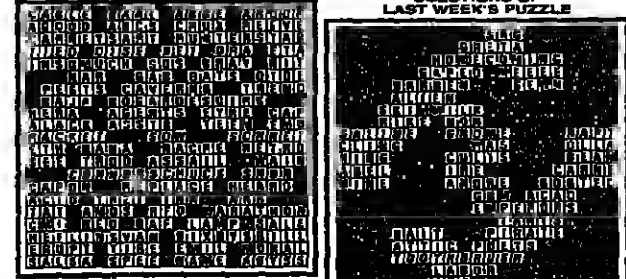
—By Norton Rhoades

3. DETS LUWQET FILLQUOT GWR DWRWKE  
BJSY WNIQQFURCJQ WT QERE WT JS.YWT  
WKEEN. RUB UOWTUO.

—By E.I. Livingston

4. IEX IWR POFCTYS LONGTYM FGIBWR UM  
BYIFY OF O LOSTNOW "FIND OUFIXUMX."

—By Ed Huddleston





## Azaideh lauds moves towards public freedoms but says more is needed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Out of 1,200 citizens dismissed from their jobs for political reasons before 1989, only 900 were reinstated, and they all hold diplomas and degrees above the secondary school level, according to a statement by Parliament member Ahmad Azaideh, head of the Public Freedoms and Citizens Rights Committee at the Lower House of Parliament.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Azaideh said that although Jordan had embarked on the march of respecting public freedoms, there was still a long way to go.

His statement came three days after an announcement by Director of the Budget Department Salman Tarawneh in which he noted that only 125 former employees were awaiting reinstatement in public office posts, as all the others had already been absorbed in various government departments and semi-official institutions.

Mr. Azaideh tackled two other questions: the condition of Palestinians in Israeli jails and the ongoing inhuman treatment of Palestinians and Jordanians in Kuwait.

"The Jordanian Parliament is following up matters related to the Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails and has been in contact with international and human rights organisations to urge them to intervene and improve their conditions," Mr. Azaideh said.

"There are tens of thousands of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails and their conditions are constantly deteriorating as a result of Israel's inhuman treatment in violation of all international principles and laws," said Mr. Azaideh.

He said he had sent memoranda to the Arab League Secretary General Ismat Abdul Majid, the U.N. secretary general and the head of the London-based human rights organisation Amnesty International, demanding that they exert efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

Referring to the Palestinian and Jordanian citizens living in Kuwait, Mr. Azaideh said that the committee had been following with deep dismay and sadness the deteriorating conditions of the Jordanian and Palestinian minorities in Kuwait following the end of the Gulf war.

"Reports reaching Jordan from independent sources speak of atrocities being committed against these citizens by roaming armed gangs and it seems that the torture and detention was systematic and unrelenting," Mr. Azaideh said.

"As a reward for their contributions to the construction of Kuwait, these non-Kuwaiti Arab nationals are being treated with repression, mass arrests, arbitrary and inhuman practices," said Mr. Azaideh.

He said it was regrettable that all forms of torture were being exercised on the Palestinian and Jordanian citizens in violation of all principles and laws.

"The Kuwaiti government is to be held responsible for these atrocities and for not putting an end to the tragedy of the tens of thousands of the innocent people," Mr. Azaideh said.

He called on the Kuwaiti government to resort to reason and to stop dangerous practices, which, he said, could only leave indelible scars on inter-Arab and Islamic relations.

Mr. Azaideh also urged Arab and foreign human rights organisations to help end the show

trials and the injustices against the detained citizens.

Last Sunday the Jordanian government urged world governments and international organisations to intervene immediately to save the lives of Jordanians sentenced to death in Kuwait for allegedly collaborating with the Iraqi army during its occupation of the emirate.

Amnesty International said last Tuesday that trials in Kuwait arising from the seven-month Iraqi occupation were defective, and asked the government of Kuwait to halt them "until defendants could be guaranteed a fair hearing."

More than 100 people have appeared in martial law trials on charges stemming from Iraq's occupation; several people have been sentenced to death.

Amnesty said "some of the charges seemed grossly disproportionate to the offences."

## Politicians, intellectuals warn against 'unjustifiable' number of political parties

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian politicians, intellectuals and public figures are emphasising the need for coordination among political groups which share similar ideology, saying that such coordination was essential to prepare the group for settling differences and giving meaning to political pluralism.

Lower House of Parliament Deputy Subaiman Arar said that democracy entailed pluralism. However, "pluralism does not mean that 'we have to create an unjustifiable number of parties if they have the same ideologies and programme'."

He said that the "Al Mustaybal party which is now being established, supported any party, which shares the same principle."

He said he would not rush to establish his party, but wait to discuss with other parties.

Dr. Jamal Al Shaer said he supported forming a national party, which "is not attached to any foreign power or party."

He said there was agreement among five parties to form a national coalition. The United National Work Front, and called on other parties, groups and pub-

lic figures with the same line of thinking to join.

Lower House Deputy Ahmad Outeish Al Azaideh, spokesman of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, rang the alarm bell over the multitude of political parties. He said formation of many parties "calls for worry since some of them are feared to be attached to foreign parties."

However, he said, the solution to the problem "lies in promoting awareness among our citizens about the dangers of the multitude of parties and their relations with foreign parties or forces."

He called on people to learn from the experience of the 1950s.

Mr. Azaideh urged groups and parties who share the same line of thinking to form one party, rather than several parties. He said that the Muslim Brotherhood movement was keen on forming one party, grouping all Islamists.

Dr. Said Al Tal, former higher education minister, said in an interview with Al Dustour daily he believed that no limitation on the number of political parties should be made because such a limitation contradicted with democracy.

He called on people to learn from the experience of the 1950s.

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## Kuwait continues trials and sentencing amid wide outcry

KUWAIT CITY — (Agencies) Seven mostly Iraqi actors, poets and songwriters were given life sentences by Kuwait's martial law court Wednesday for their work in singing Iraq's praises during the Iraqi occupation.

Four other artists got jail terms ranging up to 15 years on charges of aiding the enemy and taking part in its propaganda. One was given a suspended sentence and one acquitted.

There was no emotion in the court room when Judge Jawad Abdullah read the sentences because he had sternly warned the crowd earlier that anyone who made noise would be ejected.

The sentences came a day after United Nations officials, said Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar hoped Kuwait will show clemency towards a half-dozen journalists sentenced to death for allegedly collaborating with Iraqi occupiers.

"Even though he has no information about guilt or innocence, on humanitarian grounds the U.N. secretary-general hopes the Kuwaiti government will exercise clemency," said Francois Giuliani, spokesman for the secretary-general.

Mr. Giuliani made the statement in response to journalists' questions and said the U.N. chief had not made a formal mercy appeal to the government in Kuwait City.

Twenty-one defendants have been sentenced to death in the month-old trials, including three Jordanians, two Palestinians, two Lebanese, a Kuwaiti woman, 10

stateless Arabs and three whose nationality has not known.

The most known personality given a life sentence charged among the group of artists was Zanooba Abdul Kader Ashoor, a 42-year-old Iraqi known for working in Kuwaiti television productions.

Mrs. Ashoor sang at the inauguration party of a mural for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, took part in organising two other celebrations, and joined the Union for the Iraqi artists.

Mrs. Ashoor said she was arrested by Kuwaitis after liberation, found guilty in a summary trial and shot twice. But she did not die and managed to walk to a mosque where the sheikh took her to a police station and then to a hospital.

Others given life included Khalaf Alwan Al Malki, 74, a 43-year resident of Kuwait who wrote a short poem.

Other life terms went to a Jordanian sentenced in absentia, Adel Afana, as well as Iraqis Youssef Abdul Razzak Sakr, Aziz Saqr Al Amari and Omar Mohammed Fadel.

Saleh Ahmed, a comedian known as Imbarik who has lived in Kuwait since 1954, got 15 years.

He looked stunned, having denied taking part in union activities. He also said he hid some members of the ruling family, but they would not testify in front of the press.

One provided a letter to the judge recognising his services. Iraqis Naji Abdullah Jabouri

got 10 years while Ihsan Sabri Sawdi and Hussain Juma Kareem got five.

Midget actor Ahmad Abdullah Al Mishari was given a suspended sentence for carrying a membership card from the Iraqi union.

Western countries and human rights organisations say they are seriously concerned about the conduct of the trials, in which 21 out of more than 200 suspected collaborators have been sentenced to death since May 24.

The U.S.-based organisation Human Rights Watch delivered a letter to the Kuwaiti embassy in Washington on Tuesday urging the country to release or grant retrials to those convicted.

"While Human Rights Watch recognises and fully respects Kuwait's desire to bring to justice those who committed criminal offences while collaborating with Iraqi occupiers, the desire to revenge cannot be permitted to justify compromises with the right to a fair trial," the letter said.

"Human Rights Watch calls on the Kuwaiti government to release or grant new trials to all those convicted to date. (It) also urges the government to ensure that all further trials are held in accordance with international fair trial procedures," it added.

The London-based organisation Amnesty International has made similar appeals but the Kuwaiti authorities are proceeding with the trials and giving heavy sentences.

An Arab human rights group

also urged Kuwait's rulers to reverse the death sentences and called for an end to the trials before they "become a massacre."

"The Arab Organisation for Human Rights, which opposes the death penalty in political cases, urges military ruler Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah (Al Sabah) not to ratify the death sentences and to stop the trials until defendants can have legal guarantees," the Cairo-based group said in a statement.

Sheikh Saad is also the crown prince and prime minister.

"The organisation also appeals to the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, to intervene personally so that these trials do not become a massacre," the independent group said.

The statement, noting that those convicted did not have the right to appeal, called for a retrial of all those sentenced so far.

Germany said Wednesday it had reliable information that human rights abuses were continuing in Kuwait.

Helmut Schaffer, minister of state in the Foreign Ministry, told parliament the government had passed the information to the United Nations.

He did not say where the information had come from or what it was. No Foreign Ministry official was available for comment.

Mr. Schaffer said Donn thought the international community should be as determined in pressing Kuwait to observe human rights as it was in ending the Iraqi occupation.

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## A third of Barcelona tickets sold

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — The organizers of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics said Tuesday that over a third of 4.2 million available tickets for the games have been allocated in the first phase of sales which closed June 14.

Josef Miquel Abad, head of the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee (COOB), told reporters that institutions and members of the public had applied for 1.54 million tickets.

A ballot will be held in September to allocate tickets for the

most popular events, such as the opening and closing ceremonies or basketball and athletics finals, for which applications exceed available seats.

Some 2.7 million remaining tickets will go on sale in October on a first come, first served basis. They will include 1.8 million entries for the football competition.

Spaniards, traditionally reluctant to plan ahead, especially with no guarantees that they would receive tickets for popular events, applied for only 362,000

tickets.

Would Be buyers in the first phase of ticketing have had to pay for the tickets but no applicant has actually received confirmation yet. The tickets will be distributed next May, seven weeks before the games open, for security reasons and to prevent fraud.

Of the 1.5 million tickets total, nearly half a million have been set aside for sponsors and the media. Another 100,000 will go to institutions and sporting federations.

On that basis Abad has been able to announce that 35 per cent of tickets have been sold and that 63 per cent of expected income from ticket sales have been covered.

Spaniards and sales agents abroad will be able to apply for tickets on an equal basis in the second phase, when it opens in October on an as yet undecided date.

COOB has said well over one million tickets will be available abroad.

## Jordan receives MVP trophy



Michael Jordan

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan received the National Basketball Association championship series most valuable player award Tuesday for leading the Chicago Bulls to victory over the Los Angeles Lakers, but he's already facing another challenge.

"I'm going to find a street where no one knows me," Jordan said after receiving the MVP trophy and a car.

But does such a street exist? "We'll find it on the map," he said.

And no, he's not saying what map he's looking at. After a season in the fast lane, Jordan is ready to travel for pleasure and to take it easy.

"I'm just going to relax," he said. "I've been playing my golf every day."

He's also got to take care of some endorsements. Jordan said he hopes the Bulls' championship leads to more financial opportunities for his teammates.

"I'm going to fulfill some obligations," he said. "Things

won't change much for me. But it might for the other fellows."

One thing Jordan said he wants to do on his summer vacation is enjoy the Bulls championship, won in five games over L.A. Jordan, 28, averaged 31.2 points for the final series.

"It still hasn't sunk in," he said. "I can't believe we're the world champions."

With the title, Jordan said he has reached all of his basketball goals, both team and individual. "Now it's just a matter of duplicating," he said.

He's not making any predictions, though.

Next season, he said, "I'm pretty sure everyone's going to be shooting for us."

He thanked his teammates in accepting the MVP trophy and the Jeep Cherokee which goes with it.

"I'll think of this as a team award," he said. "But I don't know if I'll let anybody borrow the Jeep."

## England rally to force 3-3 draw against Syria

FARG, PORTUGAL (R) — England, at one point down 0-1, rallied to a 3-3 draw against Syria in their first phase Group B World Youth championship match Tuesday.

England went straight into the attack from the start, needing a win to be sure of a place in the quarter-finals after being defeated 1-0 by Spain in their opening game Saturday.

England team manager David Durstide stayed with the same squad, except to bring in Charlie Athletic's Scott Minto for Steve Harkness who was banned for two matches after being sent off for violence against Spain.

A goalmouth scramble from a cross by Arsenal's Andrew Cole in the 12th minute led to the opening goal for England. Queens Park Rangers striker Bradley Allen put the ball in.

But English elation was short lived when Mounaf Ramadan, profiting from defensive errors, volleyed in an equalizer in the 17th minute. Ian Walker in England's goal didn't have a chance.

Six minutes later England got another shock when the unfancied Syrians went ahead. Ammar Awad scored from a fast counter after Syria's keeper just managed to smother a Cole header on the line.

After the resumption, Ramadan continued to be a thorn in the England side, nearly beating Walker twice in the first 10 minutes.

Disaster struck England in the 65th minute with all their players caught in the Syrian half. Abdul Helou latched on to a long pass, outran a clutch of opponents and calmly rifled a low drive past the advancing Walker to make it 3-1 for Syria.

Andrew Awford, Portsmouth's central defender, scored five minutes later to make it 2-3 as England stormed the Syrian goal.

The relentless pressure paid off when Awford headed in his second goal and the equalizer in the 33rd minute to leave England with a theoretical chance of progressing to the quarter-finals on goal difference provided Spain beats Syria and England overcomes Uruguay Thursday.

Earlier Tuesday, Spain thrashed Uruguay in the other Group B game, an ill tempered match in which three Uruguayans were sent off and five other players were booked.

Severo, Dorta and Silva were dismissed for violence in the second half with Spain leading 4-0 at the break.

The Spaniards will play Portugal in the last eight.

## Johnson, Lewis will meet

PARIS (AP) — The first showdown between Carl Lewis and Ben Johnson since the 1988 Olympics is only one of the highlights of the upcoming BNP track and field meet which will be held in northern France, organizers said Tuesday.

Organizers Tuesday released a preliminary list of athletes expected to enter the meet, part of the Grand Prix season.

Lewis and Ben Johnson have signed a reported contract to split \$500,000, with Lewis getting the larger, unrevealed share.

Johnson won the 1988 Seoul Olympics in 9.79, but two days later tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs. He and his record were disqualified as was the 9.83 he ran in a 1987 meet.

Lewis ran 9.92, the world record until last Friday when Burrell ran 9.90 at the U.S. championships. Lewis ran 9.93 for second.

Burrell was originally in the 200 against Michael Johnson, the top ranked runner in both the 200 and 400 last year. However



Ben Johnson

Raymond Lorré, the director of the July 1 BNP meet, said Burrell would compete in the 100 instead along with Lewis and Johnson.

Ben Johnson's top 100 since his return to outdoor competition was 10.41, when he finished second in Norway last Saturday. He also did 10.54 in Granada, Spain, four weeks ago and a 10.69 in Seville, Spain, May, 30.

## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### Trapattoni returns to scene of former glories

MILAN, Italy (R) — Giovanni Trapattoni will return to coach Juventus next season after a month-long tussle with Internazionale Milan was resolved Tuesday. Inter arch rivals of the Turin Soccer Giants, had previously threatened to hold Trapattoni to his contract until the end of 1992 despite his eagerness to leave. In exchange for releasing Trapattoni, who brought Juventus six league titles between 1976 and 1986, Inter said they would get the use of an unnamed Juventus player for one year. The two clubs also agreed to buy jointly another player who will play for Inter next season. After that period, Inter would retain the right to offer him a contract. The club did not disclose other details.

Juventus have already sacked coach Gigi Maifredi after a lackluster season. Maifredi on Tuesday also rejoined his old club, newly relegated second division Bologna.

### Yugoslav international Spasic leaves Real for Osasuna

MADRID, (R) — Yugoslav international Predrag Spasic signed with the Spanish first division side of Osasuna Tuesday after completing just one year of a four-year contract with Real Madrid. "I am extremely pleased," Spasic said after signing a three year contract. "With Osasuna I'll work as hard as I did with Real Madrid and I'll do my very best." He said he had no complaints over how the Madrid team had treated him, adding they had been helpful in transfer talks, but would not say what his new terms were. Osasuna, from the northern town of Pamplona, ended the league season ranked fourth, one place behind Real.

### Three Argentines suspended in youth tournament

VILAMOURA, Portugal (R) — Three Argentines sent off during their team's match against Portugal in the World Youth Soccer championship Monday have been suspended. International Football Federation spokesman Guido Tognoni said Tuesday that Claudio Paris had been banned for two matches while Juan Ensaibar and Mauricio Pellegrini were each suspended for one match. Defending champions Portugal beat Argentina 3-0 in an ill tempered match in which five other players were also booked.

### All Africa games would consider South Africa

CAIRO, (R) — Organizers of this year's All Africa games said Tuesday they would consider inviting South Africa if Pretoria applied to take part. The games start in Egypt in September. The issue was raised following the repeal Monday of the population registration act, under which South Africans were classified by race at birth. An organization of African Unity (OAU) summit earlier this month hinted strongly that a date on contacts with South Africa could be lifted if it pressed on with political reform. Senior South Africa sports officials travel to Switzerland next month to report to the International Olympic committee (IOC) on progress to unify race based sporting codes, one of the pre-conditions for possible admission to the 1992 Barcelona games.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JUNE 20, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** This first day of Cancer (Moonchild) will find you able to complete some pretty important activities that may have been dragging along but didn't seem to get done. Show others that they are valued.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Get rid of pending tasks and at the same time enjoy those you like very much then tonight you see your way clear to start at some fresh new project.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Winding up matters of a basic nature is not early after which you are able to get off to some new pleasures and activities that bring you much joy.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Whatever you have been doing at usual chores is fine so get them in back of you early, then you are able to concentrate upon home and family.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Wind up whatever still requires some of your attention and then tonight you are able to put in effect some excellent arrangements of vital importance to you.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) The daytime finds you are able to continue making personal decisions and getting set to put new arrangements in effect then tonight do just that.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Much early day preparation for some new arrangement is excellent so spend the day getting set to go and then later put your plan at once in motion.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Discuss with friends early how they can help you to gain some

much desired objective than later you can do the personal work required by you.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) This is your day to do whatever you have agreed with those in authority then you can join friends at some happy meeting place that all will enjoy.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Let those who mean much to you realize you are open-minded to suggestions from them how you can aid you in daytime, then attend civic interests.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Whatever obligations you have get them out of the way early then you will be able to take a trip or otherwise expand in ways important to you.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Make your arrangements with all partners and associates for future action during early part of day, then later get at the specific duties you have agreed to do.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have the chance to enjoy yourself or make some plans for the future or a recreational nature before getting into that pile of unfinished duties.

Today's child: If your child were born today she or he will have all kinds of ideas for putting new plans in effect that will increase performance and efficiency — especially where languages, schools of thought and finance are concerned. A lot of foreign travel to out of the way places will keep them on the move and unmarried till later.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JUNE 20, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You have some decided talents and aptitudes which you would be wise to put in motion now so that you can gain the most of all around you.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Your need for more harmony at your dwelling is easier to obtain now than for sometime past so take any situation and firmly discuss, and settle.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Whatever means the most of you in everyday life has a good chance of becoming a workable reality if you will work at it in a very serious manner.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You find you are the one who is able to make more income by what you now do where your property or your type of work is concerned.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You can do pretty much what you like so you would be wise or get in touch with those about who are in a position to aid you to gain your personal aims.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Whatever brings you the opportunity to live in greater harmony can be greatly benefited by you in secrecy or with a knowledgeable confidence.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) There are some good friends who are just awaiting an opportunity to show you how fond they are of you so give them the chance instead of just paying attention to family.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have lots of matters to attend to in business and/or personal life so attend to taxes, insurance, social security, debts and collections.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Your own sphere of activity has been outgoing and needs some new place in order to be able to have that fresh start, get out of that rut.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 19) You have lots of matters to attend to in business and/or personal life so attend to taxes, insurance, social security, debts and collections.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have lots of matters to attend to in business and/or personal life so attend to taxes, insurance, social security, debts and collections.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) There are some important allies you can enjoy yourself with allies you like now so be sure to contact and get them to go along with your plans.

Today's child: If your child were born today she or he will have a vivid imagination and an understanding of other people's plans and desires so that they are sure and dramatic, endowed with color, culture and beauty and for a vocation will pick a field that caters to the general public.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Over the years our love has blossomed and flowered, but I've developed an allergy to the pollen."

## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumble words to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NORCO

ABOUT

GROOFT

DYKLIN

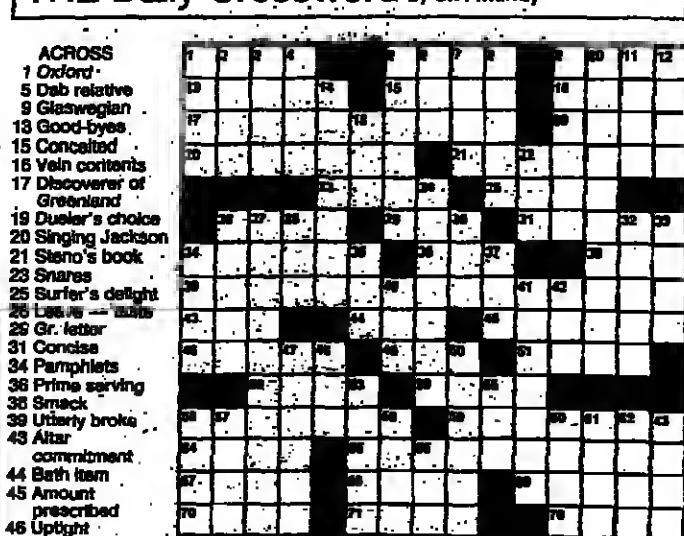
Answers: NORCO, ABOUT, GROOFT, DYKLIN

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumble: LIGHT, CRAWL, VISIBLE, FEUDAL

Answer: Was the music coming from the five suggestive of "BEE FLAP"

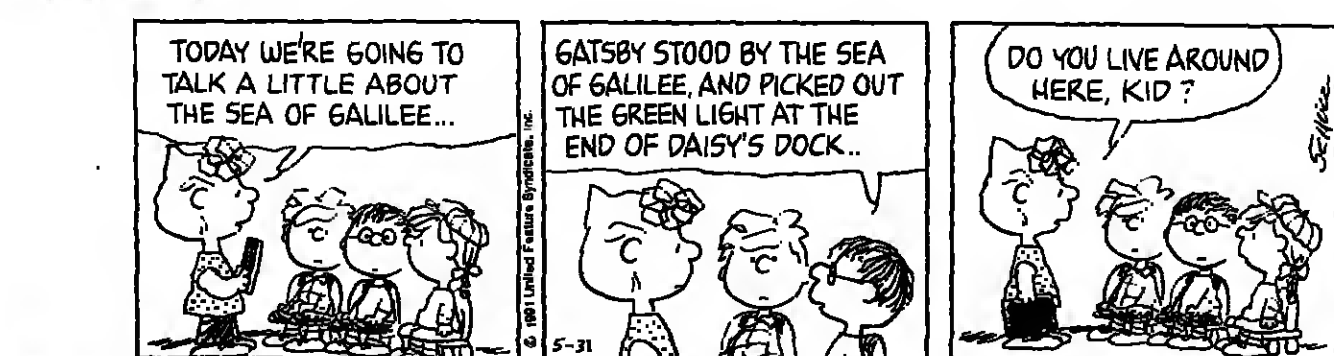
## THE Daily Crossword by C.F. Murray



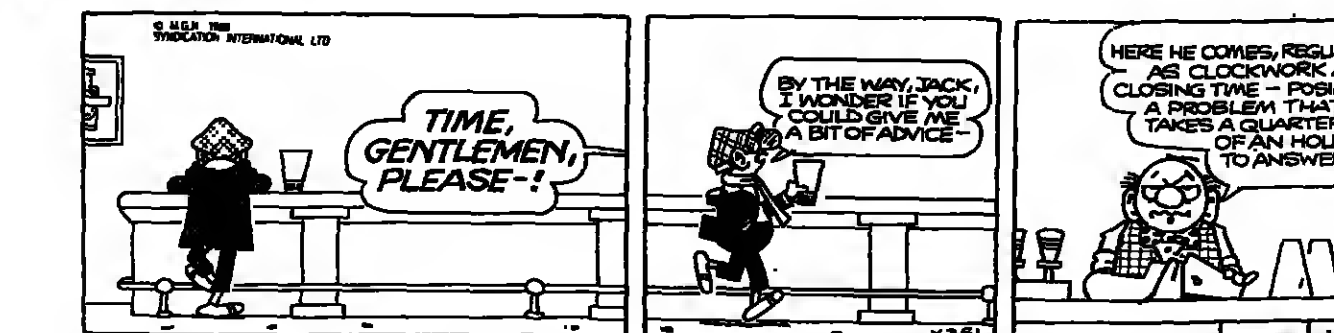
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Across: 1. Dances, 2. Dances, 3. Dances, 4. Dances, 5. Dances, 6. Dances, 7. Dances, 8. Dances, 9. Dances, 10. Dances, 11. Dances, 12. Dances, 13. Dances, 14. Dances, 15. Dances, 16. Dances, 17. Dances, 18. Dances, 19. Dances, 20. Dances, 21. Dances, 22. Dances, 23. Dances, 24. Dances, 25. Dances, 26. Dances, 27. Dances, 28. Dances, 29. Dances, 30. Dances, 31. Dances, 32. Dances, 33. Dances, 34. Dances, 35. Dances, 36. Dances, 37. Dances, 38. Dances, 39. Dances, 40. Dances, 41. Dances, 42. Dances, 43. Dances, 44. Dances, 45. Dances, 46. Dances, 47. Dances, 48. Dances, 49. Dances, 50. Dances, 51. Dances, 52. Dances, 53. Dances, 54. Dances, 55. Dances, 56. Dances, 57. Dances, 58. Dances, 59. Dances, 60. Dances, 61. Dances, 62. Dances, 63. Dances, 64. Dances, 65. Dances, 66. Dances, 67. Dances, 68. Dances, 69. Dances, 70. Dances, 71. Dances, 72. Dances, 73. Dances, 74. Dances, 75. Dances, 76. Dances, 77. Dances, 78. Dances, 79. Dances, 80. Dances, 81. Dances, 82. Dances, 83. Dances, 84. Dances, 85. Dances, 86. Dances, 87. Dances, 88. Dances, 89. Dances, 90. Dances, 91. Dances, 92. Dances, 93. Dances, 94. Dances, 95. Dances, 96. Dances, 97. Dances, 98. Dances, 99. Dances, 100. Dances.

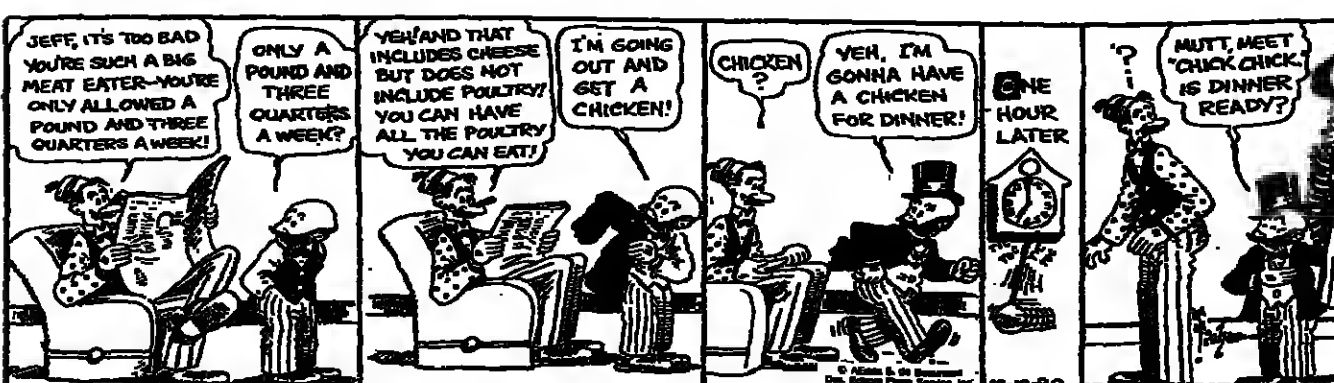
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff





## Financial Markets

**U.S. Dollar in International Markets**

Currency	New York Close (June 19 '91)	Tokyo Close (June 19 '91)
Sterling Pound	1.6092	1.6081
Deutsche Mark	1.8177	1.8177
Swiss Franc	1.5647	1.5627
French Franc	6.1766	6.1540
Japanese Yen	141.15	141.16
European Currency Unit	1.1305	1.1322

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\*\* Eurocurrency Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	6.00	5.50	5.31	5.31
Sterling Pound	11.31	11.12	11.00	10.68
Deutsche Mark	8.75	8.57	9.09	9.12
Swiss Franc	7.87	7.77	7.87	7.75
French Franc	9.37	9.32	9.75	9.68
Japanese Yen	7.87	7.75	7.58	7.50
European Currency Unit	9.37	9.37	9.93	9.90

**Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin**  
Date: 19/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.667	.669
Sterling Pound	1.1053	1.1106
Deutsche Mark	.3763	.3802
Swiss Franc	.4395	.4417
French Franc	.1113	.1119
Japanese Yen	.4869	.4893
Dutch Guilder	.3356	.3373
Swedish Krona	.1048	.1053
Italian Lira	.0509	.0512
Belgian Franc	.01839	.01846

**Other Currencies**  
Date: 19/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7900	1.8200
Lebanese Lira	.0745	.0765
Saudi Riyal	.1820	.1830
Kuwaiti Dinar		
Qatari Riyal	1.1850	1.1860
Egyptian Pound	.1950	.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7500	1.7700
UAE Dirham	.1850	.1860
Greek Drachma	.3400	.3500
Cypriot Pound	1.3780	1.4080

**CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market**  
Date: 17/6/1991

Index	17/6/1991 Close	18/6/1991 Close
All-Share	111.90	112.17
Banking Sector	107.24	107.42
Insurance Sector	115.10	115.49
Industry Sector	116.56	116.96
Services Sector	129.07	129.52

## Albania announces 80 per cent wage rises

VIENNA (R) — Albania's new coalition government Tuesday announced wage rises of up to 80 per cent for the security forces and other state sector employees. It was the first major decision of the new multi-party caretaker government formed last week to replace an all communist administration forces to resign by a 25-day general strike.

The official ATA news agency reported that "for the forces of order who have to deal directly with the security and protection of the citizens, wages will increase by an average 80 per cent."

Military personnel and oil workers would get a 70 per cent rise, while those working in construction, production of building materials and electrical power industries would receive 60 per cent, it said.

Mine workers, granted a 60 per cent rise in January following a strike that threatened to cripple the economy, received a further 15 per cent this time.

The increases are due to come into force in two stages, with 25 per cent on July 1 and the rest on Sept. 1.

It was not immediately clear where the money for the new pay rises would come from. Prime Minister Ylli Bufi said last week the strike had cost the country, Europe's poorest, some \$20 million in lost output.

## Bonn-Berlin move likely to cost 45b marks

BONN (R) — Shifting the German government and parliament from Bonn to Berlin would cost 35 to 45 billion marks (\$2 to \$2.6 billion), a German newspaper has said.

Welt am Sonntag said the figure was in an internal finance ministry report to a parliamentary committee.

The newspaper said Finance Minister Theo Waigel's ministry also reported the estimated costs could double by the year 2005.

Before unification last October, East Berlin was capital of communist East Germany and Bonn was West Germany's capital.

After unification, Berlin regained its traditional status as Germany's capital but parliament has been left to decide the future seat of government.

Top politicians began talks recently on forging a compromise between deputies who want everything moved to Berlin and rivals who want parliament and the cabinet kept in Bonn.

## Australia to protest to U.S. over wheat subsidy offer to Kuwait

CANBERRA (R) — Australia Trade Minister Neal Blewett said Wednesday he would protest to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ed Madigan over a U.S. offer to provide 100,000 tonnes of subsidised wheat to Kuwait.

Mr. Blewett said he was disappointed that the offer, made to Kuwait on June 13, appeared contrary to assurances he received from the U.S. when he led a delegation to Washington in March.

During the visit, Australia said it received an "explicit" assurance from the United States that Washington would refrain from using its export enhancement programme (EEP) to compete in traditional Australian grain markets.

Australia says Kuwait is such a market.

In its offer, the U.S. Agriculture Department said Kuwait could buy up to 100,000 tonnes in U.S. wheat under the EEP.

Sales would be made to buyers in Kuwait through normal commercial channels at competitive prices, and the offer would remain open for a year.

The Australian Wheat Board said it had been traditionally the largest supplier of wheat to Kuwait until highly subsidised Saudi Arabian wheat captured the market two years ago.

Mr. Blewett said the U.S. offer established an unfortunate precedent in a market which previously had not been a target for sales under the EEP and had potential flow-on effects for Australia's other Middle East markets.

"We have therefore strongly registered with the U.S. administration through our embassy in Washington our concerns at the implications for Australia of the initiative," Mr. Blewett said in a statement.

He said he would make a personal protest by letter to Mr. Madigan.

The wheat board said Kuwait imports about 200,000 tonnes of wheat and flour on commercial terms each year.

## Ibn Zahr signs Saudi petrochemical contracts

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — The Saudi European Petrochemical Co. (Ibn Zahr), an affiliate of the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries (SABIC), has signed two contracts to build petrochemical plants.

No details were available on the total cost but the Saudi daily Asharq Al Awsat said SABIC's expansion programmes would raise total production capacity of various products to 20 million tonnes per year in 1995 from 13 million now.

It quoted Deputy Chairman Ibrahim Ben Abdulla Ben Salameh as estimating that total cost of expansion projects would be \$3 billion.

SABIC holds 70 per cent of the company's shares and the Arab Petroleum Investment Corporation (APICORP), the Italian firm Eni and the Finnish Neste SY each own 10 per cent stake.

A company statement sent to Reuters Wednesday said it had signed a contract to build a 200,000 tonne per year polypropylene with Britain's John Brown Engineering and Construction Ltd.

The statement said the plant, due to be completed in two years, would equal in size the current largest Unipol polypropylene plant now operating in South Korea.

## China to raise rents this year

BEIJING (R) — Chinese authorities, anxious to pare crippling state subsidies, plan to raise rents for most of the nation's billion people by the end of the year.

Mr. Chen Jinhua, minister of the state commission for restructuring the economy, decreed Tuesday that the time was right for housing reform, the official Workers Daily newspaper said Wednesday.

"Urban residents now have huge amounts of cash in hand," Mr. Chen was quoted as saying at a meeting on housing reform.

Residents should eventually expect to pay five per cent of their income on housing, compared with one per cent now, he said.

"Rent for state housing will be adjusted by the end of this year," Mr. Chen said. Virtually all of China's housing falls into this category.

Rents have been held at extremely low levels since the communists came to power in 1949.

Beijing's residents pay as little as four yuan (74 U.S. cents) a month.

Chinese now have about 800 billion yuan (\$149.5 million) in personal savings, Mr. Chen said.

The government is trying to cut subsidies for housing, food and other commodities that are bankrupting the state coffers.

The success of an austerity programme begun in late 1988 to curb inflation has encouraged it to start dismantling the subsidies.

Beijing raised state prices of grain and cooking oil in May, contributing to an 8.9 per cent increase in inflation in major cities.

The state council, or cabinet, instructed 450 cities in a circular over the weekend to work out specific housing programmes, the China Daily newspaper said.

Citizens should be encouraged to buy their own homes and the price should not be kept too low, it quoted Mr. Chen as saying.

Private home ownership is in an embryonic stage in this communist nation, and only a small number of flats have been offered for sale in selected pilot areas.

## Tunisia raises sugar price to cut subsidy bill

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia raised the retail price of white sugar by between eight and 11 per cent Tuesday to cut the government's food subsidy bill, officials said.

The price of granulated sugar rises to 430 millimes (42 U.S. cents) a kilogramme from 400 (39 cents) and of lump sugar to 620 millimes (61 cents) from 560 (55 cents).

The price of brown sugar sold loose, which is consumed mainly by low income groups, remains unchanged.

The state's subsidy fund estimates that after the increase subsidising sugar will cost it 20 million dinars (\$21 million) during 1991.

## Beirut airport gets \$1.7m grant

BEIRUT (R) — A U.N. agency gave Lebanon \$1.75 million Wednesday to improve Beirut International Airport after 16 years of civil war, officials said.

They said the money from the United Nations Development Programme would be spent on equipment and training 108 people in cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Eight foreign airlines have resumed flights to Beirut since the Lebanese army renounced the capital in December.

The last airport improvement programme began in 1983. It was stopped by fighting after \$300,000 had been spent.

## Bahrain considers listing foreign stock on its bourse

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — Bahrain, preparing for a long promised development of its financial markets, is holding discussion on a plan to list foreign stock on its stock exchange, the director has said.

Speaking at a news conference marking the second anniversary of the stock exchange, Mr. Fawzi Behzad also announced that the "Awal" index will be issued by the beginning of July, emulating such indexes for shares and stock prices as the Dow Jones.

Bahrain Stock Exchange leaders will seek permission for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) residents, Arabs and non-Arabs, to own and trade shares indirectly through mutual funds and other trusts, Mr. Behzad said.

"It is to the benefit of the country, the shareholders, and the economy that we expand ownership of public companies to have other also as investors in local shares," Mr. Behzad said.

A number of 30 companies are listed on the Bahrain bourse with total capital, issued and paid, of 914 million dinars (\$2.4 billion).

Shares of the Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), the largest of some 60 offshore banking units on the island, involve the only foreign stock allowed for local trading on the Bahrain exchange.

Mr. Behzad said that more than 20 nationalities other than GCC entered Bahrain stock market through the ABC stock in which dealings began last year.

Mr. Behzad said that the authorities were studying measures to increase trading of shares other than equities such as bonds and debentures.

He said that during the seven-month Gulf crisis, prices on the bourse dropped by 29 per cent only while shares on international markets fell by 40-45 per cent.

Mr. Behzad said that negotiations were made with Kuwait stock exchange for cross listing of shares but plans fell through because of the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Contacts were being renewed to reactivate the plans.

He also said that similar contacts for cooperation with Oman's stock exchange were under way.

Bahrain and Oman are the only GCC states that have stock markets. Kuwait had one before the Gulf crisis. It was being slowly reinvigorated after the 1982 crash of the non-official Manakh bourse under the weight of \$94 billion in post-dated cheques.

The GCC groups Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and United Arab Emirates. Saudi Arabia allows limited stock dealings through special financial houses and banks.

## EC, EFTA clear obstacles to common market agreement

LUXEMBOURG (R) — The European Community (EC) and EFTA reached an accord Wednesday removing obstacles to the setting up of a common market stretching from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, EC and EFTA officials said.

"A political agreement is in existence covering all the problems," Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos told a news conference after a meeting of Community and EFTA (European Free Trade Association) ministers.

"We have reached an agreement, the negotiations are crowned by success," chief EFTA negotiator, Austrian Economics Minister Wolfgang Schuessel, told the news conference.

Mr. Poos said it would not be possible to complete the accord on the so called European Economic Area (EEA) in Salzburg next Tuesday, as originally hoped, because some details remained to be settled.

It would be finished by Aug. 1 at the latest, he said.

Both ministers said an accord had been possible because EFTA members Norway and Iceland conceded to a demand by the 12-nation EC to allow Spanish fishing vessels rights in their waters in return for more open markets.

The EFTA also includes Austria, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

## Greenspan sees no measurable upward thrust in U.S. economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Recent economic data indicate the economy has his bottom but any renewed expansion so far is too small to measure, Federal Reserve (Fed) Chairman Alan Greenspan said Tuesday.

Mr. Greenspan, testifying before the House of Representatives' Ways and Means Committee, said statistics "over the last several weeks strongly suggested that the bottom is somewhere in the second quarter," ending June 30.

However, he added, "we see no measurable upward thrust" and said employment is likely to remain sluggish for a while even when recovery begins.

"It's a matter of a few months at most" between the time recovery begins and the jobless situation shows significant improvement, Mr. Greenspan said.

He refused to be more specific about when he expects the economy to resume growing and the unemployment rate to drop. But the number of jobless workers who exhaust unemployment benefits "should start to become less onerous relatively soon," he said.

The recession began in July, ending a record eight-year peacetime economic expansion. Recent signs of a rebound include a decline in new claims for unemployment insurance and increases in May in retail sales and industrial production.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday that housing starts in May edged up 0.1 per cent, the third increase in four months. Builders started construction on new homes and apartments at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 982,000 units. Analysts said the report confirmed their view that the housing recovery would be slower than normal.

Mr. Greenspan appeared before the House panel to discuss improving the ability of the United States to compete with other nations.



Alan Greenspan

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

**TOKYO** — Tuesday's strong GNP figure dimmed hopes for an interest rate cut. The Nikkei index lost 688.72 points to 20,996.75, its lowest close since February 6.

**SYDNEY** — Australian shares rode out most of the falls in Tokyo but Volume was thin and the All-Ordinaries index closed four points down at 1,519.1.

**HONG KONG** — The market reopened after a two-day holiday and came under pressure from Tokyo's slide. The Hang Seng index finished 13.02 points lower at 6,626.16.

**SINGAPORE** — Several Singapore Blue Chips came under pressure as prices fell over a broad front in moderate trading. The Straits Times index lost 9.05 points to close at 1,514.22.

**BOMBAY** — Widespread profit taking, triggered by reports of a truce in India's Congress Party in selecting a leader, halted a two-day rally in share prices. The Bombay Stock Exchange index fell 9.75 points to 1,325.46.

**FRANKFURT** — Shares drifted to close at a three-week low in this nervous trading. The DAX index fell 12.39 to 1,683.03.

**ZURICH** — Shares closed at the day's lows in lacklustre trading. Weak European markets and Wall Street's sharply lower opening pulled stocks down. The SPI index fell seven to 1,111.5.

**PARIS** — The CAC 40 Blue Chip index finished below the psychological 1,000 level for the first time since April 30, taking its lead from slides on Wall Street and in Tokyo. It finished down 32.44 to 1,790.19.

**LONDON** — Prices closed lower on what analysts said was concern over political and economic worries, notably a growing rift in the Conservative Party. The FTSE 100 index closed down 31.3 at 2,404.7.

**NEW YORK** — Blue Chips moved off their morning lows at midday but remained sharply depressed. The Dow was down 30 at 2,957.

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## Tidbits about the new team

By Mamdouh Hawamdeh

PRIME MINISTER Taher Masri formed the Cabinet on Wednesday at 3 p.m. following two days of continuous negotiations and deliberations with various political groups and individuals in the country.

— Mr. Masri became Jordan's 29th prime minister since the formation of the first cabinet headed by Rashid Taiehon April 11, 1921.

— The new Cabinet includes six ministers from the previous government of Mudar Badran — Basel Jardaneh, who remained finance minister, Ziad Fariz, planning minister, formerly minister of trade and industry, Dr. Khaled Al Karaki, formerly minister of culture combined both ministries of information and culture, Abdul Karim Al Dughmi, became minister of state and kept the labour ministry, Thabet Al Taher remained minister of energy and mineral resources, Saad Hael Srour became minister of public works and housing, formerly being minister of water, supplies and irrigation. — 12 members of the new Cabinet have become ministers for the first time: — Ali Abu Ragheb, Mohammed Fares Tarawneh, Mamdouh Abadi, Jawdat Al Shoul, Dr. Awni Bashir, Saleh Ershaidat, Abdul Salam Freihat, Salim Al Zoubi, Jamal Al Khreisha, Tayseer Kanaan, Samir Kavar, Dr. Subhi Al

Qassem. — The new Cabinet, just like the former, include 25 ministers. — Six members of the new Cabinet had been ministers in former cabinets: — Ali Sheimat, Raef Nijem, Dr. Abdulrahman Ensour, Dr. Mohammed Hamouri, Abdul Karim Kabariiti, Dr. Eid Dheiyat. — The new Cabinet will convene its first session at noon today. — In addition to Mr. Masri, the new team includes ten deputies: Ensour, Dughmi, Kabariiti, Tarawneh, Freihat, Khreisha, Bashir, Zoubi, Kavar. — Six members of the 25 ministers hold PhDs: Ensour, Fariz, Dheiyat, Qassem. — Six members of the new Cabinet are engineers: Sheimat, Nijem, Abu Ragheb, Ershaidat, Taher and Srour. — There are four ministers of state in the new Cabinet — Dughmi, Tarawneh, Freihat, Khreisha. The four are deputies. — Dr. Dheiyat is expected to resign his post as president of Ahliyyeh University to assume the portfolio of education. Dughmi remains the youngest minister. He is 35 years-old. — Dr. Abdulrahman Ensour and Ali Abu Ragheb were both out of the country at the time of the swear-in. Mr. Abu Ragheb returned from Switzerland last night and Dr. Ensour is expected back soon. — The most prominent post vacated as a result of the new appointments is the mayor of Amman, which had been occupied for nearly two years by Mr. Ali Sheimat, the new deputy prime minister.



Abdul Karim Al Dughmi



Abdullah Ensour



Subhi Al Qassem



Ali Abu Ragheb

## Masri's formation of cabinet helps proposal

(Continued from page 1)

In his letter of appointment to Mr. Masri, His Majesty King Hussein indicated that Jordan will maintain a flexible position towards various peace proposals but pledged not to compromise Jerusalem.

According to well-informed sources, neither Jordan nor the PLO expect Israel to make serious shift in its uncompromising position, but are both keen on maintaining Jordanian-Palestinian unity.

The exclusion of the Muslim

Brotherhood from the cabinet, by securing a coalition of all other trends and independent Islamists in parliament and outside, is also expected to be a factor that might help bring closer coordination between the PLO and Jordan — as the two seem to be keen on containing the influence of the Brotherhood in Jordan and Hamas in the occupied territories.

The Muslim Brotherhood, and its Palestinian and military wing which is Hamas, has repeatedly used the PLO's commitment to

the peace process as a weapon against it both in the Israeli occupied territories and here.

Although Jordanian analysts do not believe that the Brotherhood will opt for a direct confrontation with the new government over the peace process, they expect it to widely use the issue to undercut the popular support for the cabinet and the parties which have backed it.

The analysts expect that the Brotherhood will try to prove its influence mainly in the camps,

especially those which houses the Palestinian refugees of 1948 capitalising on the movements call for the liberation of the whole of Palestine.

"The competition between the new government and the Muslim Brotherhood will be a test for the Brotherhood, the cabinet, the PLO and the commitment to a peaceful solution," said one analyst. "But in all cases the Brotherhood movement has to be able to come out with viable and feasible alternative," the analyst added.

## King outlines objectives

(Continued from page 1)

country safe from any loss of freedom, dignity, nationality or citizenship... if not for this fraternity, of which we are proud, and for which we care, we should be like others, without dignity, without honour, without a sense of belonging, without even the ability to stand together in the face of difficulties, putting our faith in God first, and in ourselves second, to build our nation, and hold our heads high in dignity and pride.

Reaffirming Jordan's quest for a just and comprehensive solution of the Palestinian problem, the King said in his letter that "we seek a peace that safeguards our rights and which secures a life in freedom and dignity for our future generations."

The King outlined the government's objectives as:

— Enacting or amending new legislation towards enhancing democracy and political pluralism guided by the National Charter; — Deepening national unity; — Transforming institutions into democratic establishments and teaching democracy as a way of life;

— Correcting Jordan's economic imbalances as a top priority; — Working towards achieving comprehensive socio-economic development;

— Implementing effective agriculture and water policies;

— Developing tourism;

— Updating the judicial system and improving court procedures;

— Developing education from the basic levels;

— Improving higher education;

— Nurturing the concept of dialogue, away from libel, slander and intellectual and psychological terrorism, through the press, mosques and schools; and

— Protecting the environment. In addition, the King also called on the government to seek Arab reconciliation. "We believe that the starting point must be activating the Arab League and its agencies in a spirit of cooperation and common awareness that no one has an alternative but to rapprochement and reconciliation if our states are to live, individually or collectively, in dignity on our Arab soil," the King said.

The government should interact with the international changes and "open up to the world in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with the principles of mutual respect and mutually beneficial exchange," the King continued.

The Monarch reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to a negotiated solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem on the basis of the principle of territory in exchange for peace and U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. "We shall remain open and ready to cooperate with all international efforts to resolve the conflict peacefully and we shall continue our dialogue and diplomatic efforts with all governments and effective forces to apply international legitimacy to the Palestinian problem."

The King also revealed a decision to update and modernise Jordan's armed forces "emphasising quality and balance rather than quantity."

Entrusting the government also with the task of developing the security forces, the King emphasised that the people should abide by the law and respect it rather than fear it while the security forces protect the law. (See full text of the King's letter on page 4)

## Cabinet sworn in

(Continued from page 1)

Brotherhood from the new cabinet, the palace and the new prime minister were basically drawing on Algeria's recent experience with the fundamentalists," a former minister said. "The message is clear in that Jordan will not tolerate that kind of violence and experience, and whoever does not want to play by the rules can ignore them at his own peril," he added. "But the latest moves might have also been necessitated by the crystallisation of a new approach to the Palestinian problem by Jordan."

The formation of the government in this shape and orientation signals a "new turn" towards political future for the country based on a liberal democracy which would allow for realism, openness and progress while keeping an eye on developments in the Arab and international arenas, according to the observers and analysts who were interviewed by the Jordan Times yesterday. They agreed that the "new blood" represented by the new cabinet is probably unprecedented since the late Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf formed his cabinet in December 1979.

"The King's appointment letter to Mr. Masri is a most important event in a decade of politics," said Taher Hikmat a former minister. "It is a document that sets forth very clear and specific guidelines for Jordan's political future," Mr. Hikmat added.

He said that "in over a decade there has not been a change of personalities or even attitudes as this. What has taken place could mean a new course for the country, and a future premised on a liberal democracy that is open and realistic."

"If this government is able to hold out and implement the King's vision and programme it will draw the political map for long years to come. The stage is set for breaking the old taboos on procedures and to concentrate on strategy."

The credit for this change, analysts say, can only be attributed to the King's "courage" in opening the doors for a modern state which would stress the benefits of internal unity and draws the red lines beyond which Jordan would not extend itself.

"The King took a historic decision. He looked at the vacuum in which Jordanian politicians have been operating aimlessly for years and decided to provide them with a vision for Jordan in the future," a former minister who is now a member of parliament said. "The change in government and the new outlook the King outlined yesterday are masterstrokes that Jordanians should be proud of."

Kamel Abu Jaber, a political analyst and former minister, pointed to the King's appoint-

ment letter as a "meticulous and specific document which outlines the King's thinking on internal, regional and international policies."

"It is unusual in that it was very specific and gave a precedent in that it was a civilised step in the right direction," he added.

The King's message in his appointment letter, Dr. Abu Jaber said, is very clear: Open the windows and doors to every idea there is."

Mr. Hikmat said that the importance of the appointment letter "was even more significant than the appointment of a new government because it was precise in defining Jordanian political activity for now and in the future."

"The choice was democracy which is based on a coalition of a number of parties which belong to the centre, left-of-centre and right-of-centre," Mr. Hikmat said.

"Institutionalising this choice, in my opinion, will allow for the picking of the fruits of the democratic experiment without suffering from its negative aspects," he said.

Dr. Abu Jaber pointed to the make-up of Mr. Masri's administration as a "very good government of centrists and nationalists."

"One of the best things about it is that it brings in new blood and new faces. It can create an atmosphere of new ideas and debate," he said. But, he said, it maintained its traditional positive mix of "Jordanians and Palestinians, north and south and the parliament."

With this new vision and new blood, analysts said, it becomes obvious that the mission of Mr. Masri's government is not to "sign a peace agreement" with Israel as was claimed by the Brotherhood movement but to maintain Jordan's principled position towards the Middle East problem.

The main task of this government, other analysts insist, is to allow a new liberal attitude to take control of official thinking in a manner which would encourage innovativeness and creativity in dealing with Jordan's internal problems and help it along the path of democracy.

Jordanian politicians and deputies interviewed yesterday generally agreed that the translation of the elements embodied in the King's appointment letter would require the government to "take example from the King's courage in opening the doors, fighting the way for a modern state."

Mr. Hikmat said "the King has provided the government with a work programme, if God gives it strength its achievements will be great." This may well be a new era for Jordan.

## King warmly thanks Badran

(Continued from page 1)

one who believes in the will of God. One who understands his responsibilities and is insistent to remain what he has always been in his patience, ability to withstand, his faith and integrity.

We have always known that it was not easy for a prime minister to stand in front of a Lower House of Parliament with a vote for a candidate, some others came to this dome with the votes of several candidates according to election constituencies determined by the law and such an issue now requires from us an aware stand to study and amend so we would be able to mend a loophole here and close another there since now we are all citizens and officials, are aware that while it is important to maintain existing quotas between the different governorates it is also necessary to study what dividing constituencies holds within its folds, so that the voter, who is the essence, aim and medium of democracy, would not be put in front of one of two choices without alternative and where the voter is forced by law to give his vote out of those two choices even if it did not agree with his opinion, direction or decision. If we are successful in dealing with this issue we would be able to allow our voter, woman or man, the choice to choose one candidate, in his position or efforts and choice, is the more representative of the voters' opinion and ideology.

There are also other issues which need study and correction: Family registration book, voter card and the duty of a voter to give his vote out of those two choices even if it did not agree with his opinion, direction or decision. If we are successful in dealing with this issue we would be able to allow our voter, woman or man, the choice to choose one candidate, in his position or efforts and choice, is the more representative of the voters' opinion and ideology.

God is witness that we have envied a brother for whom we have never wished our friends anything but all goodness and prosperity. They know as we do what pressure we were under and what the crisis that hit our economy and what it produced in debt.

This would not have happened what has been promised was delivered. If the aid allocated to us by Arab decision was fulfilled.

Under all these difficult circumstances we had given you the responsibility of premiership and you were to that responsibility.

You confronted your duties as fulfilled what is required of you. From all Jordanians we give you the appreciation and pride.

As I accept the resignation of your government I pray God to protect you, give you happiness and success in all your endeavours while we are sure that you will continue to be among the leaders of faithful citizens and those working towards the building of Jordan and serving the nation and the state wherever you are.

God bless you and we are happy to import to our royal wish to grant you the Al Nahda Decoration of the First Order.

## Badran, in resignation letter, says programme went well

(Continued from page 1)

based on the principles of freedom, justice and the supremacy of the law. My government has sought, with your backing and support, to implement its programmes in close cooperation with the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament, and has succeeded in laying down the principles of popular participation in government, which in turn enhanced the image of democracy. The government had worked in an atmosphere of tolerance and constructive dialogue with relentless and determined effort to confront challenges and achieve further progress and development and reform in Jordan.

The government has worked in total commitment to the constitution in letter and spirit and striven to create an atmosphere of freedom in political, informational and political fields.

Despite the fact that our experiment in democracy was still young and regardless of the hardships that we encountered in its concept and application and despite the internal and external challenges facing the country, my government succeeded in implementing its programmes in the economic, social and political fields. Your Majesty,

Thanks to your leadership, Jordan has succeeded in overcoming one of the most dangerous crises; and the Kingdom succeeded in standing firm in the face of difficulties and was able to pursue the course of construction in a manner exceeding all expectations. My government had the honour to shoulder this burden under very difficult circumstances and was able to safeguard Jordan's credibility and to overcome economic and social difficulties stemming from the Gulf crisis.

Now that Jordan has accomplished this distinguished stage in the march towards democracy and is entering a

new phase which Your Majesty had blessed with the endorsement of the National Charter by the national congress... a charter that represents the aspirations of the coming stage, I am honoured to submit to Your Majesty the resignation of my government to open the way for another team to shoulder this responsibility.

I seize this opportunity to present to Your Majesty, in my name and on behalf of my colleagues the ministers, the true feelings of loyalty and appreciation and gratitude for your confidence in the government and for your continued support during its mandate.

## Premier found his way through maze

(Continued from page 1)

was tantamount to a coup d'etat in Jordanian contemporary politics.

Muslim Brotherhood ministers, who had portfolios in such ministries as education and social development, had implemented controversial decisions which were mostly related to segregation of sexes in schools and public institutions.

The inclusion of five members of JANDA and the appointment of Saleem Zoubi, an ultra nationalist member of parliament, has, as an observer put it, "changed the face of the Jordanian government."

"The political elements in the Masri government are pro-establishment liberals with a heavy twist of pan-Arab and leftist trends, in comparison to the last Badran government which was pro-establishment with a

noted presence of conservatives and Muslim fundamentalism," said the observer.

Two members of the independent, 7-man Islamist bloc in Parliament were included in the government, in agreement with their coalition colleagues, and one other independent Islamist was appointed as minister of Islamic affairs.

"Our membership in this government is in agreement with the other members of our parliamentary bloc," newly-appointed Minister of Social Development Awni Bashir told the Jordan Times.

At least six members of the new cabinet are considered by observers to be technocrats. They include Minister of Education Eid Dheiyat, Minister of Finance Basel Jardaneh, Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher, Minister of

Agriculture Subhi Qassem and Minister of Justice Tayseer Kanaan.

While independent Islamists took three portfolios, which include the Ministry of Islamic Affairs (Raef Nijem), Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Abdul Salam Freihat) and Ministry of Social Development (Awni Al Bashir), members of the prime minister's own parliamentary group, the National Bloc, took four cabinet posts.

The four are Foreign Minister Abdullah Ensour, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Karim Kabariiti, Minister of Public Works and Housing Hael Srour and Minister of Water and Public Works Samir Kavar.

Members of JANDA which have been sworn in as members of the new government include two members of the seven-man Democratic Bloc in parliament which represents the coalition in

the Lower House.

Deputy Mohammad Faris Tarawneh was sworn in as minister of state, while fellow Democratic Bloc deputy Abdul Karim Al Dughmi was reappointed as minister of labour and also as minister of state. Three of JANDA's founding members were also appointed. They are: Ali Abu Ragheb (Minister of trade, industry and supply), Dr. Mamdouh Abadi (minister of health) and Dr. Saleh Ershaidat (minister of youth).

Other appointed ministers include an independent, Mohammad Hamouri, who became minister of higher education; Khaled Al Karaki, an independent leftist who was appointed as minister of information; Jawdat Shoul, an independent long-serving government official, who was appointed as minister of interior.

## Soviets retain sense of humour

By Alan Cooperman  
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — As the Soviet economy crumbles, shortages get worse and people join lines with their eyes on the clock, one thing remains plentiful: Political humour.

Telling jokes about Kremlin leaders used to be subversive, but under glasnost, the sharper the quip the better.

One comedian defined glasnost as "a time when anything can come out of your mouth, but you've got nothing to put into it." Soviet law makes it a crime to insult the "honour and dignity" of the president, but comedians mock Mikhail Gorbachev with impunity, their derision waxing as his popularity wanes.

On May 13, the new Russian television channel's first night of broadcasting, millions watched comedians subject Gorbachev and his chief rival, Boris Yeltsin, to scathing imitations and one-liners.

In one skit, satirist Anatoly Trushkin mocked Gorbachev's provincial accent, deliberately mispronouncing words as he pretended to lead the National Congress of People's Deputies in a discussion of whether to start work or take a break.

Gorbachev is the butt of the most popular joke of his six years as Soviet leader.

A man fed up with waiting in the vodka line announces he is going to kill Gorbachev. He storms away and returns an hour later.

"So did you kill him?" someone asks.

"No. That line was even longer than this one."

In another joke going around Moscow, Gorbachev takes his grandson to the Kremlin for all the top officials to admire. "He's going to be a general, you can tell by the way he stamps his feet," Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov says.

"No, No, he's going to be a banker," says Premier Valentin Pavlov. "You can tell by the way he grabs with his hands."

"You're both wrong," Gorbachev says. "He's going to be a president, you can tell by the way he's fouled his diapers and keeps on smiling."

As soaring inflation makes the ruble nearly worthless, jokes

circulate about the lengths to which Soviets will go for Western currency.

At a meeting of a workers' collective, the chairman upbraids a pretty young woman.

"You come from a decent family, you have a good education, you were always a good worker," he says. "How is it you became a hard-currency prostitute?" "Just lucky, I guess," she replies.

As one story puts it: "There are two possible ways perestroika can succeed, one realistic and the other pure fantasy. The realistic possibility is that extraterrestrials will land in a spaceship and help us. The fantasy is that we'll help ourselves."

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# Premier pledges to work for democracy, peace and progress

(Continued from page 1)

Your Majesty.

The principles, fundamentals, and national objectives defined in Your Majesty's letter of appointment are the landmarks from which my colleagues and I will be honoured to seek guidance. Foremost among them is the emphasis on national unity, the backbone of this country, the essence of its fortitude, and its protective shield. The Jordanian people have proved their faith in national unity, on which they relied during the difficult crises, the most recent of which was the Gulf crisis. The people of Jordan put their trust in it as they made their tenacious stand in the face of the winds that blew in the region, and again when they consolidated their national structure. This government will remain committed to safeguarding national unity, and to do all that this task will require, with diligence, determination, and firmness in confronting any attempts to undermine it.

We are committed to keeping Jordan a country where human rights are respected, whose people are open to the world, and whose progress bears the marks of its heritage of benevolence and nobility... A country that seeks to secure its common interests on a basis of mutual respect, so

that it can remain a beacon of light and a model of the state of institutions and law, a model of the power of the people which is derived from the distinctiveness of its individuals and their organisation in modern progressive systems that offer a conducive atmosphere for contribution and inventiveness.

My colleagues and I will be honoured to bear the responsibility with which you have entrusted us, and we assert that we shall strive to complete the requisites of the nation's fortitude through its self-reliance and its stand with our brothers who struggle for the freedom of the nation, its dignity and unity, who reject division and scatter, and who work to bury old feuds and conflicts. We in Jordan, have set the best example of fraternity on the basis of belonging to the country and this nation. We are proud of this achievement and we seek to enhance it, drawing strength from Your Majesty, which will enable us to tell the truth and defend it. Based on this, we seek a just peace based on the truth. We bear no vindictiveness, and we stress the necessity to restore unity to the Arab stand, after the Gulf crisis shook Arab solidarity to its foundations. Jordan and some of our brothers called for an Arab solution to the crisis to ward off the spectres of foreign intervention and

inter-Arab fighting. That position was not biased in favour of one party against another. It was dictated by a penetrating insight of the dangerous development and their consequences. As a result, Jordan was subjected to severe suffering both politically and economically, and sought refuge in the deep faith which its people had in the soundness of the Jordanian position and the correctness of its nationalistic approach, which Your Majesty personified by your courageous and honourable stand from the first moment.

Therefore, we extend our hand in sincerity to our Arab brethren, and we invite them to study building a new Arab order in which the Arab peoples enjoy their full right to freedom and democracy, to start the process of complementarity and unity and to strive to bring this hope to reality. This would restore Arab solidarity onto unshakable foundations and result in outcomes beneficial to the Arab nation which must live up to its historic role in defending freedom, justice, and human dignity.

The Arab region swims in a sea of international political activity which aims at bringing peace to the Middle East. Jordan, by virtue of its history, location, and connection to the land of Isra'a and Mi'raj (Mohammad's noctur-

nal journey to Jerusalem and ascension to heaven), is a party to these moves. Jordan's participation aims to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region, based on international legitimacy, as embodied in the United Nations resolutions that call for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including holy Jerusalem.

Through Jordan's faith in Arab solidarity, it will strive to coordinate its position with its Arab brothers in these political moves which Israel faces with intransigence, and to which it reacts by expropriating more Palestinian lands, building settlements, and rejecting international will and legitimacy. Jordan will also continue its efforts to lift the yoke of occupation off the Arab and Palestinian territories, and to ensure that the Palestinian people gain their legitimate rights, foremost among them their right to self-determination, so that a comprehensive and just peace can prevail in the Middle East, and all states and peoples can turn to building a better future.

As for our brothers across the river, we say to them that the bonds of kinship and blood, and the deep historic links will continue to pull us towards them, and to assert our determination to struggle for their liberation from occupation and injustice. Our

stand by them and our continued readiness to support them by all means, on the local, regional, and international levels, attests to these links that extend in purity to the depths of our conscience.

Your Majesty.

On the domestic level, my government will adopt the concepts and outlooks stated in the National Charter and in Your Majesty's letter of appointment, and the objectives which you defined for national development in agriculture, tourism, and conservation of the environment. Therefore, the government will begin implementing political pluralism by seeking to enact legislation on the completion of the democratic process in accordance with the Constitution, guided by your historic address delivered after the ratification of the National Charter, guaranteeing the higher national interest, consolidating the bases of the democratic process, developing its institutions through mutual respect, honest competition, and highlighting the positive role of political groupings, so that they can bear their responsibilities in this phase.

As for development, the basic challenge lies in making steady progress towards self-reliance. This highlights the need to reorient ourselves to-



Taber Nassiri takes the oath of office as prime minister (Photo by Yousef Allan)

wards an economy that relies on local abilities, and creating the appropriate atmosphere to redress the internal and external imbalances in our economy. Naturally, there is a price to pay for self-reliance. Society will have to decide on a just distribution of responsibilities among its various segments. Therefore, it is essential to activate the creative potential available, to move our economy towards self-reliance, and to enhance coalescence between all segments of society, within the framework of preserving national sovereignty. This coalescence will have to bear the responsibility of demanding a greater productive effort from society, within the framework of preparing for fruitful endeavour and optimal exploitation of local re-

sources. This coalescence for development will have to include rural and urban communities in equal measure. It must also encompass professional skills and creative ability in the private and public sectors.

Your Majesty.

The principles, concepts, and guidelines outlined in the letter of appointment, and the fundamentals and objectives which it defined, will constitute the bases which my government will adopt in drawing its line of action and bearing its responsibilities, in view of the causes of the Jordanian nation, foremost among them the Palestinian problem. Arab solidarity, and all that relates to domestic affairs. We shall follow Your Majesty's guidelines, and we shall always hope for Your Majesty's con-

tinued support as we seek diligently and sincerely to translate these guidelines into policies and programmes. We put our faith in God and in the awareness and unity of our people. We shall work faithfully to cooperate with the legislative authority to lay the foundations of the ethics and rules within the broad guidelines defined by the Constitution and supplemented by the Charter.

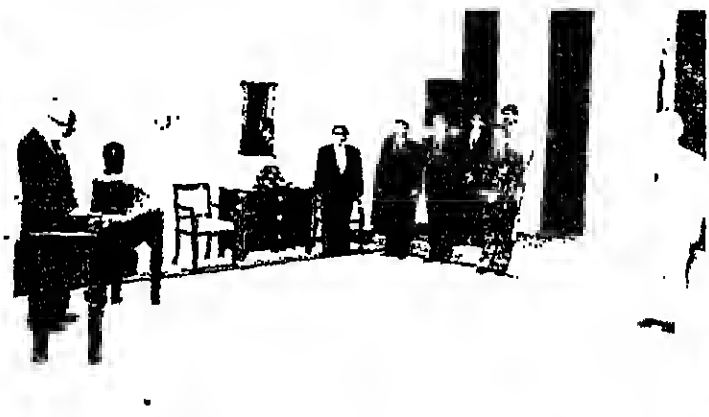
I am honoured to submit to Your Majesty the names of my colleagues, the ministers, hoping that Your Majesty may kindly agree to sign the royal decree.

May God always protect and be with Your Majesty.

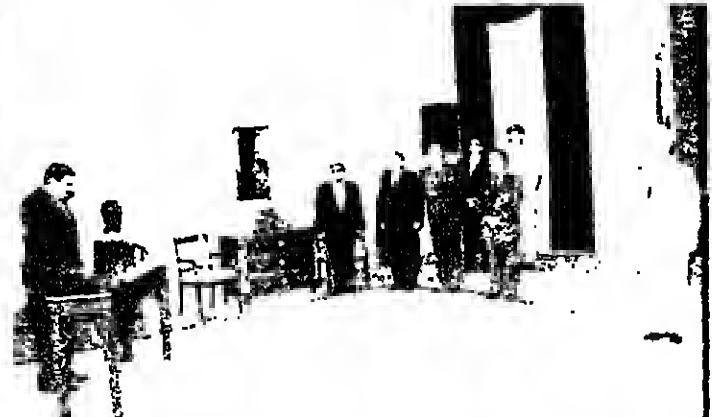
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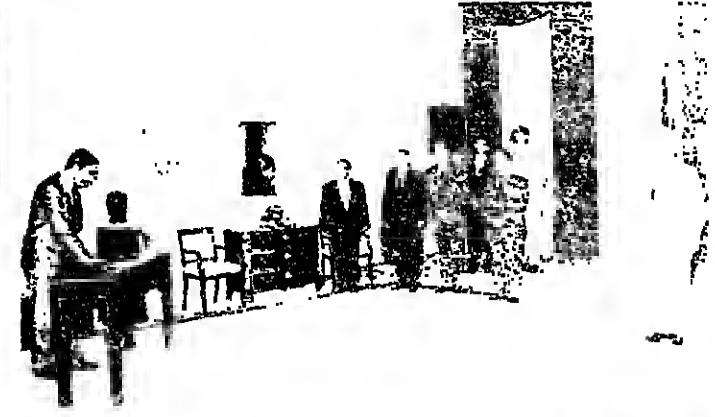
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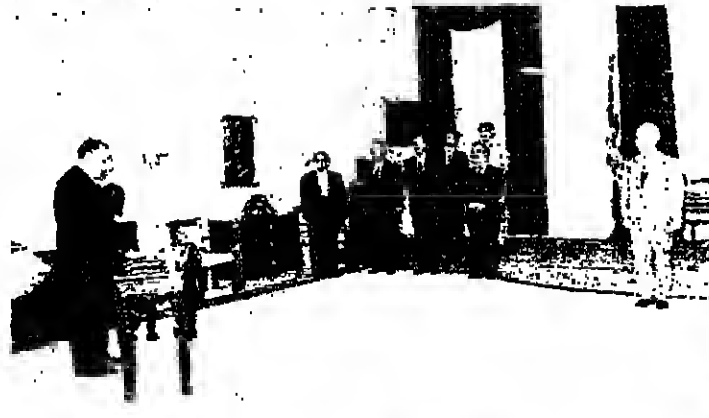
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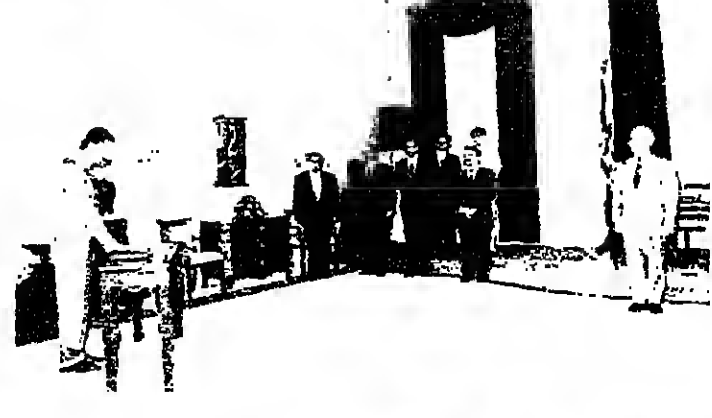
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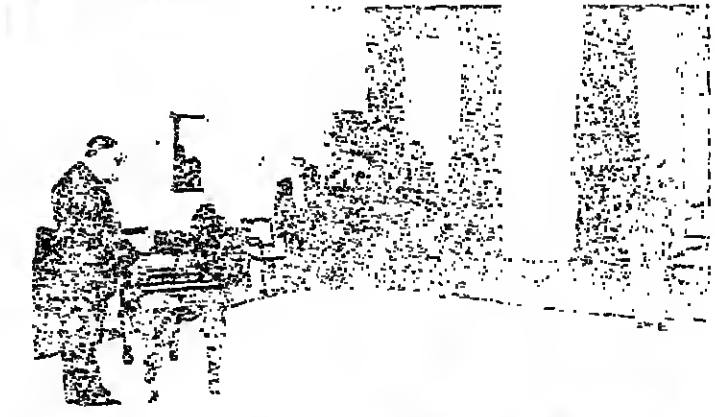
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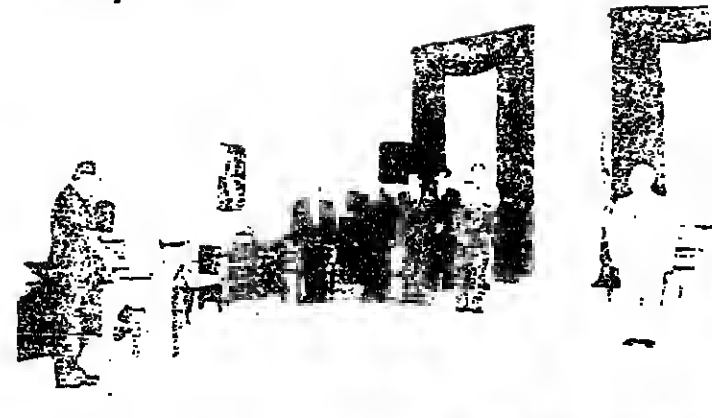
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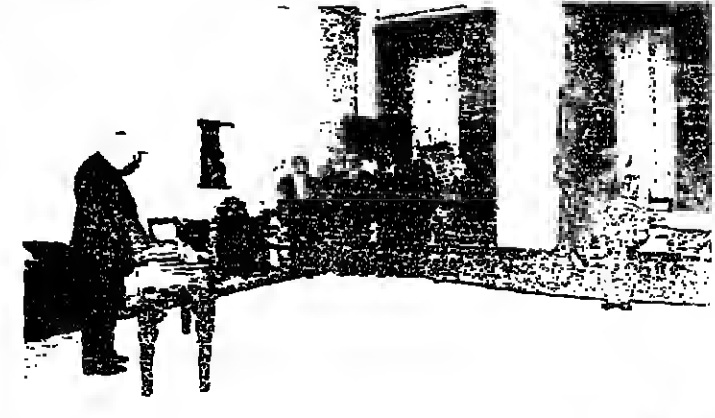
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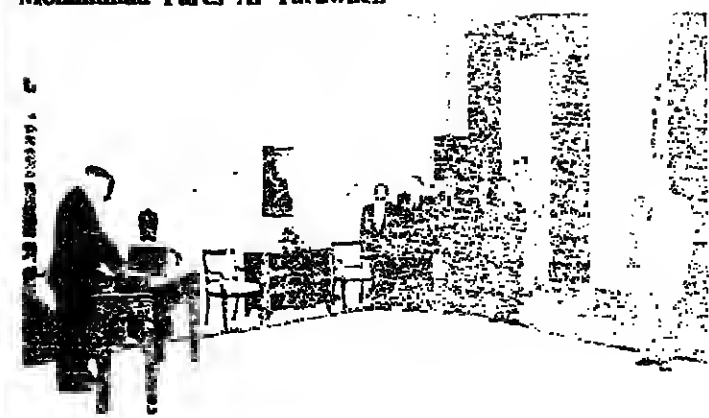
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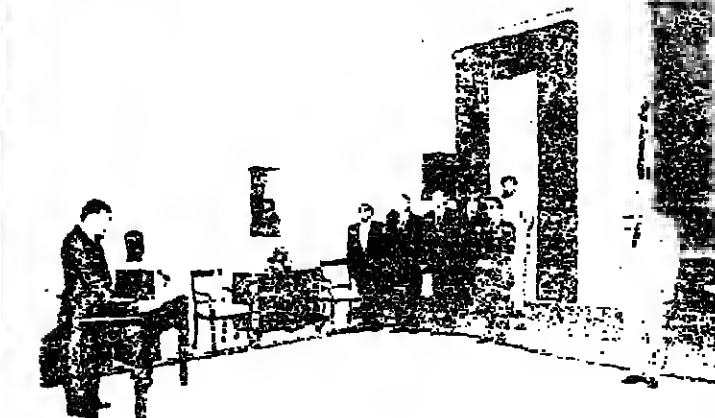
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## ALBANIA ADMITTED TO CSCE

## Soviet stand stalls conference agreement on approach to crises

BERLIN (AP) — Foreign minister from Europe and North America, trying to devise a plan to resolve post-cold war crises, were stymied Wednesday by the Soviet Union.

The foreign ministers had opened the two-day meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) by unanimously accepting Albania as the 35th member. As a member, the once hardline communist state pledges to uphold human rights and democracy.

The conference is to focus on turmoil in Yugoslavia and the creation of mediator teams to defuse various conflicts, as well as stimulate economic aid and investment.

But in their first closed talks on the issues, delegates crossed swords over how to react to conflicts. Belgian Foreign Minister Mark Heykens said the Soviet delegation objected to a proposal to begin mediation without the agreement of all 35 member countries.

The Soviets, who are grappling with several internal crises, want unanimous approval from the CSCE countries before the "emergency mechanism" process can begin, Heykens said. Re-

quiring such unanimity would mean that even the countries involved in the crisis would have to agree.

The majority disagrees with the Soviet position, Heykens said. But the CSCE operates by consensus.

"Consensus is not always desirable or applicable," the Belgian foreign minister told reporters. Moscow also had blocked three independence-minded Soviet republics from taking part in the closed meetings.

The three Baltic republics, who are not members of the CSCE, sent their foreign ministers to plead for independence from the Soviet Union.

The Baltic ministers also were rebuffed in their attempt to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh, said Juuri Luik, counselor to Estonian Foreign Minister Lemart Meri.

A U.S. official said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was to meet the ministers from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia later Wednesday.

German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher opened the conference Wednesday morning by asking delegates to approve Albania's request to be-

come a member.

Until its recent reforms, Albania had been the last hard-line communist state in Europe and the only European country not a member of the CSCE, which groups Europe with the United States and Canada.

Albania's acceptance in the international body was expected to boost the impoverished country as it struggles to break from four decades of communist ideology.

After Genscher handed the conference gavel marking Albania's admittance, the country's foreign minister, Muhamet Kapllani, moved from his observer's position to a seat next to Baker.

Baker is to travel to Albania Friday for a brief stop to meet with Premier Ylli Bufi and leaders of the country's democratic opposition. The United States and Albania signed an agreement last March to normalise relations after a bitter 52-year estrangement.

In a welcoming speech, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Germany would be a "reliable partner" as the organisation sought to shed the burden of history that had brought "unspeakable human misery" to Europe in this century.

"This history admits of only one conclusion: There may never again be a return to the demons of yesterday, to nationalism and racism, to ideological intolerance, to threats and the use of force," Kohl said.

Without naming countries, Kohl appeared to refer to civil unrest in Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union when he warned there was already need for the conflict resolution measures the conference was considering.

"A glance at alarming developments in parts of Europe underlines this necessity. We cannot and may not be indifferent if military violence threatens anywhere in Europe," Kohl told the session.

The aim of the meeting, Baker said in a conference-ewe speech, is to look beyond the end of the cold war and the demise of the Warsaw Pact and create "the architecture of a new Europe and a new Atlanticism."

"We must begin to extend the trans-Atlantic community to central and Eastern Europe, and to the Soviet Union," he said. Bessmertnykh, whose country is pleading for aid, said economic cooperation would be a major theme of the conference.

## 'Pavlov trying to seize powers from Gorbachev'

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Press Wednesday accused Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov of trying to seize powers from President Mikhail Gorbachev by requesting emergency controls over matters such as finance and agriculture.

"Pavlov on the captain's bridge — is the ship sinking?" asked the reformist daily, *Moskovski Komсомолец*, in a typical comment from Wednesday's press. "He wants to take some of Gorbachev's powers from him."

Without consulting Gorbachev, Pavlov asked the national legislature Tuesday to grant him powers to issue decrees without the approval of the president or parliament.

The supreme Soviet legislature asked a committee to study Pavlov's request and report back Friday.

Pavlov also put forward an economic reform plan sharply at odds with a Western-backed plan drafted by Harvard University and former Russian republic economic adviser Grigory Yavlinsky.

In what the government newspaper *Izvestia* called an attempt

"to go behind the president's back," Pavlov was quoted as saying he objects to Gorbachev's decision to seek aid from the West.

Pavlov told the legislature that Gorbachev was too busy to handle day-to-day government business. The prime minister said he needed authority to issue emergency decrees on such matters as the harvest, banking, and taxation.

The Soviet Union lost much of last year's record grain harvest due to the command economy's failure to adjust to the bounty. The national government also has been financially strapped by its own deficit spending and by Russia's refusal to turn over all the tax revenues demanded by the Kremlin.

Gorbachev's spokesman tried to play down the apparent conflict between the president and prime minister.

"It is nothing dangerous. I don't think Gorbachev wants to overestimate it," spokesman Vitaly Ignatenko told reporters Tuesday.

The flap comes on the heels of a major political victory for Gorbachev, an agreement in April by nine of the 15 Soviet republics on a new union treaty holding the country together.

Many hardline lawmakers support Pavlov, Gorbachev's finance minister until six months ago. But reformist lawmakers and newspapers noted Gorbachev already has emergency powers, and accused Pavlov of seeking them to override the president's policies.

"I don't know whether it's a majority or not, a lot of deputies will vote for Pavlov's request," Vitaly A. Semenyov, a lawmaker from the Ukrainian city of Dnepropetrovsk, said during a break in Wednesday's legislative session.

Semenyov, a member of the hard-line Soyuz Faction, said many lawmakers fear that greedy moves toward a market-oriented economy will create chaos.

"We're trying to do everything in two years. I don't think anything good will come of that," he said. "If we're going to preserve the country, we must change gradually."

## Yeltsin declares Russia not begging, open for business

WASHINGTON (AP) — Boris N. Yeltsin, on his first visit to the United States since being elected president of the Russian Republic, says he doesn't like Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev very much because the Kremlin leader is inconsistent and hands under pressure.

Yeltsin's slap at his chief of state and erstwhile political rival came just a few hours after he had praised Gorbachev Tuesday for making possible his victory in Russia's first democratic presidential election.

"To a large extent, I don't like him," Yeltsin said in an interview with Ted Koppel on the ABC television network's "Nightline" programme. He's inconsistent. He has strength for a period of time, and then under pressure from other forces, he may change his decision. That isn't a good thing."

Yeltsin, speaking through an interpreter, criticized Gorbachev for what he called the Soviet leader's "half-hearted decisions, changing his position, he goes first to the right, then to the left. These perhaps are the main qual-

ities which I don't like about him."

Recently, however, after being warned that continued military crackdown in the Baltics and a retreat from the reforms he started would lead to demands for his resignation, Gorbachev realigned himself with the reformers, Yeltsin said.

"Since then, I would call our relations balanced... pragmatic," the Russian populist said. "There's nothing personal in this at all."

Gorbachev brought Yeltsin into the top ranks of the Communist Party and then fired him three years ago after he complained that Gorbachev was moving too slowly on reform.

Yeltsin's primary message on this first day of his four-day unofficial visit to the United States was to declare Russia open for business.

As leader of the largest and wealthiest of the Soviet Union's 15 constituent republics, Yeltsin said, he did not come to beg.

"We have not come here hat in hand," Yeltsin said. "We have

come here to... assure you we are working for a better future, one which we shall build with our own hands."

"We shall travel your road" toward a market economy and a free enterprise system, the outspoken ex-communist told his first audience at the start of the visit. "We believe that we have left behind the experiment that we had to go through, the one which was called Marxism."

Yeltsin said the Russian parliament will adopt legislation this month to open the republic to foreign investment.

"It will create a beneficial regime for all investors from all over the world to come and set up their enterprises in the Soviet Union, to own them and manage them as they see fit," he said. "And we want them to make a profit, and we believe the people of Russia will benefit because of that."

The blunt-spoken Yeltsin at first appeared sensitive to U.S. concerns that his visit might embarrass Gorbachev, who has the support of the Bush administration.

## Slovenia appears determined to break from Yugoslavia

LIJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia (AP) — Slovenes appear determined to declare independence sometime in the next week, despite the certain economic hardship and the uncertain response of Yugoslavia's federal government.

"It's like a mother delivering a baby — she suffers a lot of pain before she smiles," Slovenia's prime minister, Lojze Peterle, said of the troubles that might accompany secession. He added, "there's no way back, that's impossible."

Croatia, another Western-leaning republic, plans to quit the tottering Balkan Federation within days of Slovenia's declaration. Yugoslav and western governments warned that a split in the federation could fatally disrupt the already shaky economy.

Even Slovenia's leadership has said the republic, Yugoslavia's most prosperous, would suffer economic problems.

Federal Premier Ante Markovic told Slovenia's parliament a week ago that secession could result in chaos and he hoped that would not require military intervention.

If Slovenia does proceed with plans to break away June 26, its leaders won't be making any quick, dramatic changes.

There will be no crisp new banknotes to spend, no Slovenian passports for travel, and probably no international recognition. About 20,000 soldiers of the Yugoslav people's army will still be encamped on Slovene territory from the Alps to the Adriatic.

But Slovenia's leaders insist the declaration will be more than symbolic.

They say it will mark the beginning of statehood for 2 million people who in 1918 passed from centuries of rule by Austria's Hapsburgs to decades of troubled relations with Serbs, Croats and other nationalities in multi-ethnic Yugoslavia.

NEW DELHI (R) — India's Congress Party is toying with the idea of forming the country's third successive minority government if it cannot formally put together a parliamentary majority, party officials said Wednesday.

"That certainly is an option," one senior Congress member said as the party emerged from marathon elections just short of a parliamentary majority.

Congress and its allies in parliament were 27 seats shy of a majority with 40 seats left to be declared, most of them in the Hindi heartland states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar where the party has fared badly.

Congress and its allies have won 229 of the 511 seats at stake, followed by the Hindu chauvinist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with 109 and the National Front with 59.

"There is no legal problem, said the senior party official, who asked not to be identified. "All we have to do is win a vote of

confidence in parliament. There is no formal requirement that we prove a majority."

However, those groups Congress is looking at as coalition partners have been highly ambivalent about joining the government, saying they would prefer to support Congress on an issue by issue basis.

Other major parties have said the message from the lowest turnout of India's massive 514 million electorate — only 53 per cent bothered to vote — appeared to be that people were fed up of elections and political games.

"Congress can realistically rest assured that no one is going to want to bring down the government for the next year or two for fear of public displeasure," said Pran Chopra, a veteran analyst at the Independent Centre for Policy Research.

That gives Congress plenty of time to shore up its position, the party officials said.

But, they said, the party would

prefer a majority sooner rather than later to deal with the country's worst economic crisis as well as the deep internal divisions reflected in the results of India's bloodiest elections.

The voting followed nearly two years of caste, religious and separatist violence in which thousands of people were killed, and the rise and fall of two minority governments.

Congress leader Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated May 21 after the first day of voting, a trauma that delayed the ending of the elections until last Saturday.

"The biggest winner was the BJP, emerging as the second biggest single party after a campaign that pushed Hindu nationalism and tapped latent anti-Muslim antagonism."

Other major parties are largely concerned with freezing out the BJP and its challenge to traditional secular politics, opening a series of options for Congress to achieve a majority.

## Volcano, bases uncertainty put a damper on business

OLONGAPO, Philippines (AP) — Uncertainty over the future of U.S. military bases and the devastation of Mount Pinatubo may mean the party's over in the U.S. navy's fun capital of the Pacific.

The erupting volcano has dumped tonnes of ash on this city outside the main gate of Subic Bay Naval Base, damaging hundreds of homes and businesses, including the bars and nightclubs that cater to U.S. servicemen.

Bar owners and other businessmen face a dilemma: Should they spend thousands of dollars repairing the damage only to have the Americans leave if no agreement on the bases can be reached before their lease expires in September?

"I'll wait until September before investing anything," said Lolita Manuella, owner of a bar. "I just may sell out and move to Manila."

Regulars from the base still prowl the bars on the Garish Ramon Magsaysay Avenue. But power cuts have shut off the lights and even the refrigerators which cool the beer. Most business

occurs now during the day.

Bar girls while away the evening hours sitting outside the darkened nightclubs in front of huge mounds of volcanic ash cleared from the roofs.

"Whoever beard of Pinatubo, we didn't even know it was a volcano," bargirl Rose Cruz said. "Now it's spoiled our lives, even our prospects for finding an American to marry. The Americans are our livelihood."

Negotiations on a new agreement covering Subic and Clark Air Base broke off May 3 because of differences over compensation and how long the Americans can stay. Washington offered \$360 million a year for 10 years, but the Philippines was demanding \$625 million a year for a seven-year agreement.

U.S. Defence Secretary Richard Cheney says the United States must now take into consideration how much it will cost to repair damage at Clark and Subic before deciding whether it wants to keep them.

Virgilio Umali, whose Bogart's Bar boasts the only mechanical

bull in the Philippines, says he and the other owners are closely watching the stalled bases talks before deciding what to do.

"I might decide to invest in a resort if the Americans stay for 10 more years," he said. "But if it's five years or shorter, I don't think I'll spend the money."

The future of the bases is critical to the economy of this city of more than 300,000 people about 80 kilometres west of Manila because it depends almost entirely on the Subic installation.

Thousands of residents work on the base, either for the U.S. navy or for Filipino contractors which provide services such as food, cleaning and other concessions.

Thousands more work in restaurants, bars, hotels and other businesses off-base which rely almost exclusively on American trade.

"Just about everyone here depends directly or indirectly on the bases," said Vic Vizcocho, a journalist who supplements his income by selling pork to restaurants

Croatia, another Western-leaning republic, plans to quit the tottering Balkan Federation within days of Slovenia's declaration.

Yugoslav and western governments warned that a split in the federation could fatally disrupt the already shaky economy.

Even Slovenia's leadership has said the republic, Yugoslavia's most prosperous, would suffer economic problems.

Federal Premier Ante Markovic told Slovenia's parliament a week ago that secession could result in chaos and he hoped that would not require military intervention.

If Slovenia does proceed with plans to break away June 26, its leaders won't be making any quick, dramatic changes.

There will be no crisp new banknotes to spend, no Slovenian passports for travel, and probably no international recognition. About 20,000 soldiers of the Yugoslav people's army will still be encamped on Slovene territory from the Alps to the Adriatic.

But Slovenia's leaders insist the declaration will be more than symbolic.

They say it will mark the beginning of statehood for 2 million people who in 1918 passed from centuries of rule by Austria's Hapsburgs to decades of troubled relations with Serbs, Croats and other nationalities in multi-ethnic Yugoslavia.

## Romanian premier tours industry to calm labour unrest

BUCHAREST (R) — The threat of a general strike planned by Romania's biggest trade union bloc appeared to recede Wednesday as Prime Minister Petre Roman began a tour of key industrial centres in a bid to calm labour unrest and explain his market economy reforms.

A general strike called by the National Confederative Union (NCU) bloc, with over three million members and a self-declared aim of forcing Roman to resign for bungling the reforms, failed to materialise. A railway strike crumbled after a single day.

Roman went to Floresti, a big oil refining and chemical centre north of Bucharest, to meet managers, provincial politicians and union chiefs to discuss local problems in adopting reforms to switch Romania from a Communist-style system to a market economy, *Rompres News* Agency said.

Officials said it was the first of several such trips planned this week to defuse tension as the National Salvation Front (NSF) government faced the worst wave of strikes since it took power in the December 1989 revolution.

## Salvador peace talks stymied in early stages

QUERETARO, Mexico (AP) — Peace talks between Salvadoran guerrillas and the rightist government appeared stalled Tuesday. A neutral source close to the negotiations said "the overall view is not very positive."

The latest round, which started Sunday with United Nations mediation in Queretaro, 200 kilometres north of Mexico City, centres on guerrilla demands for reforms in the Salvadoran army with an eventual goal of a ceasefire.

Violence has continued unabated throughout more than a

year of talks.

Fifteen people died in a rebel attack on the country's largest prison that freed 131 prisoners, authorities said Tuesday. Justice minister Rene Hernandez Valiente said 53 of them were political prisoners.

The armed forces said nine prisoners died in "cross fire" and four guerrillas and two soldiers died in the combat that raged for more than an hour Monday night after the rebels blew a hole in the wall of La Esperanza Prison, about 10 kilometres north of San Salvador.

## Opposition leader accuses Roh's party of vote-buying

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Opposition leader Kim Dae-jung accused President Roh Tae-woo's government party Wednesday of corruption and vote-buying, and urged a vote of no confidence against Roh in local elections.

"If (Roh's) party wins the elections, it is tantamount to giving them a vote of confidence. Then his government will strengthen its authoritarian rule," Kim told a news conference as he wrapped up a campaign tour for Thursday's balloting.

Kim, head of the nation's main

opposition group, the New Democratic Party, accused the government of using money and administrative power to buy votes and help governing party candidates.

"Let the candidates know that the more money they spend on campaigning, the more likely they are to lose," he added.

The governing Democratic Liberal Party said it was confident of victory. It said voters want stability after weeks of violent anti-government protests after the April 26 fatal beating of a student demonstrator by police.

## Sandinistas take over radio station

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Militants seized control of a radio station and the city hall Tuesday to protest a move to revoke laws that gave thousands of Sandinistas free property in the final months of their decade of rule.

No one was seriously hurt in the takeovers at Radio Corporacion, a rightist station, and at the capital's city hall. In both cases masked men identifying themselves as Sandinistas forced their way into the buildings and vowed to remain inside.

The takeovers were the latest in a series of Sandinista challenges to the authority of President Violeta Barrios de Chamor-

ro, who is struggling to get Nicaragua's economy functioning again after more than a dozen years of war.

While the Sandinistas pressure her to leave intact the revolutionary changes they made, former contra rebels and rightists are demanding Sandinista policies be overturned, pushing her government in conflicting directions.

The laws the gunmen wanted to protect were approved by the leftist Sandinista government after it lost the February 1990 election but before Chamorro's government was inaugurated April 25.

The measures specified that anyone using confiscated proper-

ty became the immediate owner, and enabled city governments to give vacant property away to almost anyone who asked.

Former President Daniel Ortega, leader of the Sandinistas, had warned that his followers may take action if the millions of dollars worth of state property handed out to party faithful had to be given back.

Sandinista officials and followers got cars, office supplies, computers and small farms or houses in the giveaway. Higher-ranking officials got luxurious homes seized from Nicaraguans who left the country after the 1979 Sandinista revolution.

## AIDS cure could be Chinese herbs or acupuncture

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — Governments should look into Chinese herbs, acupuncture and hypnosis as possible keys to curing AIDS and not just fund conventional research, victims of the disease said Tuesday.

"Scientists are spending all the money on looking for a magic bullet better than (the AZT drug)," AIDS patient and activist Jo Greenberg told a packed workshop at the seventh international AIDS conference in Florence.

"But 80 per cent of the world's AIDS victims are being treated with alternative or indigenous methods. Governments should fund studies on these, now," said Greenberg, of the New York-based act (AIDS coalition to unleash power). The only approved treatment,

AZT, prolongs life but is highly toxic. AIDS activists and doctors say the pharmaceutical industry has been slow to treat the AIDS epidemic.

Treatments outlined at the workshop included traditional Chinese medicine, acupuncture, psycho-analysis and hypnosis.

Greenberg said such methods used as part of a holistic approach could purify the body and help restore the body's resistance to diseases, which is destroyed by AIDS.

Such approaches are already often used by cancer victims and sufferers of other diseases who praise their effectiveness in relieving pain.

Meanwhile, delegates to the seventh international AIDS conference were told educational

efforts to control the disease by promoting safe sexual behaviour have backfired among inner city youths, one of the highest risk groups.

With such teenagers already suffering all the other stresses of living in America's ghettos, "knowing that they are at risk for AIDS can actually make them more likely to indulge in behaviour that is associated with the transmission of the disease," said Arlene Stiffman, a professor at Washington University.

In a long term study of 602 inner-city youths in 10 U.S. cities, Stiffman found that knowledge of AIDS and exposure to multiple sources of information about how the disease was transmitted did not alter their behaviour.

Instead, the more the teenagers realised their personal risk,

the more likely they were to continue taking those risks.

"If you see no hope for your life, there's not much point in changing the way you do things," she said.

On the other hand, AIDS activists protested Tuesday about alleged insensitive treatment meted out to sufferers of the disease at a major AIDS conference.

"We are furious. We might expect AIDS phobia on the streets of Florence, but not inside the international AIDS conference," said Jeff Herwatt of the Militant American Act Up (AIDS coalition to unleash power).

Several thousand sufferers of the disease have converged on the five day conference in Florence to dramatise their plight.

## COLUMN 8

## China to crack down on couples living out of wedlock

BEIJING (R) — China will punish and separate couples who live together out of wedlock when a new law goes into effect later this year, the official *China Daily* said Wednesday. "Violators will be fined up to 300 yuan (\$94) and their relationships will have to be ended," the newspaper said. The fine is equivalent to about four months' wages for an urban worker. The punishment will also apply to bigamists, couples too closely related by blood, and marriages involving partners deemed medically unfit. "It is the first time since China's marriage laws were enacted in the 1950s that people involved in invalid marriages have to face such harsh penalties," the newspaper said. The early-Chinese Communist Revolutionaries, including late chairman Mao Tse-tung, espoused free love. Mao lived with his then paramour Jiao Qing while still married to someone else.

## Four charged with fraud in connection with pet cemetery

MELVILLE, New York (AP) — Federal officials charged owners of a pet cemetery with fraud for allegedly advertising private cremation or burial "to ease the grief of losing a pet" but instead dumped many animal carcasses in mass graves. The FBI and U.S. attorney Andrew Maloney alleged the Long Island Pet Cemetery made millions by improperly disposing of the remains of as many as 250,000 pets. Most were sent in by their owners for private burial at a cost of 100 dollars to 500 dollars per pet, or for private or mass cremation. "This case is a particularly cruel hoax," said Maloney. "Instead of animal lovers getting peace of mind, they are faced with this." The company mailed brochures to pet owners, urging them "to ease the grief of losing a pet," by choosing private cremation, the "modern and dignified method of care for your pets." The remains of as many as 250,000 pets — mostly dogs — were not cremated, but instead dumped in mass burial pits in the rear of the facility, authorities alleged. Other pets that were supposed to be cremated individually were instead shoved dozens at a time into large ovens, the federal officials said. Scoops of ashes from the mass cremation were returned to pet owners with certificates falsely stating that the ashes were those of their pet, the FBI said.

## Three injured from student gunfire

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — A 14-year-old student who was sent home from a school sports day returned with a .22-caliber rifle and wounded two teachers and a teen-age girl Wednesday, police said. One of the Orara High School teachers suffered a chest wound and was in serious but stable condition at Coffs Harbor Hospital, on the north coast of new south Wales state. A hospital spokesman said a second teacher, who was shot in the left hand, and the injured 13-year-old student, who was shot in the left thigh, were both in satisfactory and stable condition but would be undergoing operations later Wednesday.

## Murder at an Ivy league school

HANOVER, New Hampshire (AP) — Two Ethiopian women who came to the United States to study physics at Dartmouth College were killed by an attacker, who struck them repeatedly with an ax, police said Tuesday. A 32-year-old fellow Ethiopian, described as a friend of the victims, was in custody. The suspect, Haileselassie Girmay, "made certain admissions" about his role in the deaths when he was arrested Monday at the apartment where the bodies were found, said Hanover police chief Kurt Schimke. They are the first murders in the Ivy league college community in more than 50 years, Schimke said. Police were called to the apartment, which is leased by Dartmouth, Monday morning after a neighbour reported a disturbance. They discovered the bodies, found an ax they believe was used in the killings, and arrested Girmay at the scene. Prosecutors said Girmay, an Ethiopian-born geology teacher at a university in Sweden, apparently also was staying in the apartment while he visited the women.